TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

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K E WUIR What babies do to your brain

LIBBY PURVES A divorce of convenience

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Santer pledges clean-up of EU sleaze

LL European Union staff are week and a timetable by to be bound by a code of con-March for negotiations on duct designed to curb corrup-. tion, nepotism and mismanagement under reforms accepted by Jacques Santer yesterday to avoid censure and the dismissal of all European

The Commission President so accepted a proposal from hard Schröder for a high-level rkings by the Parliament nd member states.

e prospects of a censure moion receded, but MEPs anger ver the record of individual commissioners could still official who bless the wi bring a damaging vote against on fraud last month.

While the Parliament was far from satisfied with Mr. Santer's failure to show more contrition, he appeared to have answered the main demands of the two big parlia-mentary groups, the Socialists and the centre-right European People's party. Rebels in each group are nevertheless expected to call for censure, as are the Greens and a handful of other groups, but they are unlikely to muster the necessary

wo-thirds majority. er gave all the signs of a prior accord with the leaders of the big parties. With all 19 commissioners around him, he acknowledged the gravity of the Parliament's confidence vote. "I am ready to bear my share of the responsibility for this," he said, but he pleaded that the Commission had been "victim of its own policy of trans-

parency" in pursuing abuses. Pauline Green, the British Labour MEP who leads the Socialists, deplored the "culture of nepotism, patronage and fi-nancial gain" that prevailed in parts of the Commission. this must be dealt with now," she said.

Mrs Green wanted details of the independent review this

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"The majority in my group time its work. Only an inde-

m leader of the PPE, at-The concessions meant that and perty corruption, and all the main groups attacked the Commission for punishing

Edith Cresson of France and . Leading the charge for sack-Magda Aivoet, the Green leader, said it was time for the executive to take political responsibility for years of mismanagement. "We need a strong Commission to give strength to Europe." she said.

The MEPs' reluctance to oust the Commission is strongly backed by member Governments, which fear paralysis in the EU machine. The biggest danger for the Commission is a strong vote for a Liberal mo-French and Spanish commissioners, who have been most closely linked with multimillion-pound abuses in the ad-ministration of EU programmes. Although no device exists for the parliament to sack commissioners, the

MEPs are hoping to shame the pair into resignation. Mine Cresson, bowever, delivered an angry denial of any abuses under her responsibili-ty for spending on vocational training and Senor Marin, who is in charge of overseas de-velopment, said: "Never in my 14 years at the European Comssion have I ever had anything to do with fraud corruption or covering it up."

Make or break, page li



ead cliff crashes into the sea

By Helen Johnstone

SAFETY experts were yesterday examining the coastal beauty spot at Beachy Head after a section of rockface crashed into the sea in what could be Britain's biggest single loss of coastline in living memory.

The unmanned Beachy Head lighthouse has been effectively rejoined to the Sussex coast after thousands of tonnes of chalk fell 500ft into the sea at the weekend, filling in a popular 100-yard sea channel used extensively by tour-

Experts believe the collapse may have been caused by wa-ter entering the chalk rock and expanding in volume on freezing, forcing the cliff to crum-ble. Beachy Head has the dubious distinction of being one of the world's most popular suicide spots. Last year more peo-ple jumped off it than San Francisco's Golden Gate

Coastguards were last night warning people to keep their distance from the edge as officials from Eastbourne Council tried to establish how stable the remaining cliff face was.

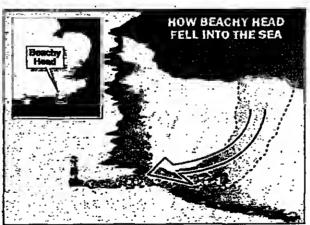
"It's a major change to the coastline," said one. It only takes one slip and you don't get a second chance."

The landslide was spotted over three miles out to sea by astonished lifeboat crew members from Eastbourne who estimate that a 50st deep slab of cliff face fell away along a 200-vard stretch.

Eddie Buckland, a lifeboatman, said: "It's colossal. It's fallen down right out to the lighthouse and up to near the top of the stairs. The last big fall was about 15 to 20 years ago at the nudist beach about 600 yards east. But that's tiny compared to this one. It's got to go out over 100 yards." Mark Sawyer, 36, a fellow

crewman, said: "I have never seen anything like this before, none of us have. We were three and a half miles out to sea when we saw it and we could see it clearly." He added: "It really is mas-

sive. I've been with the lifeboat crew for eight years and I've been fishing there since I was eight years old and I've never seen a fall of that size."



The Environment Agency, which is not responsible for cliffs but is responsible for beaches, was yesterday keeping a close eye on Beachy Head after confirming the enormity of the latest collapse. Ray Kemp, for the agency. said it was difficult to quantify, but it was certainly the largest by far in the area and prob-

ably the largest yet in Britain. "Hundreds upon thousands of tonnes have gone. Chunks have been falling off Beachy Head for ages but never any thing like the size of this." He said wave height in the Atlantic had increased by 10 per cent in the past decade and the sea was hitting the coastline

"One minute we are in a drought situation and then the chalk is sodden. In eight months out of 12 we have had above average rainfall. The coastline is increasingly vulnerable as climate change starts to bite. What is happening is symptomatic of a whole range of circumstances. In my grandmother's time you could but that is impossible now."

The latest collapse provides fresh evidence of how many

coastal landmarks and properties around Britain are under threat from coastal erosion. In 1994 Holbeck Hall Hotel in Scarborough fell into the North Sea. Ten villages on a 40-mile stretch in Humberside are threatened with being abandoned as the North Sea

continues to cat up the coast-line at an estimated rate of 11 yards a year. Coastal erosion is also becoming a serious problem in eastern and southem England, with sea levels expected to rise by up to 20in over the next 50 years. Over the years stormy seas

have also ravaged chalk cliffs along South Down's coastline. leaving several homes perilously close to tumbling into the sea. The erosion has accelerated work to save the Belle Toute, a neighbouring lighthouse and the only permanently inhabited former lighthouse

Blair makes NHS key to Yemen prepares new Labour relaunch

By Roland Watson, JILL SHERMAN AND IAN MURRAY.

LIRBY PURIAS.

ARTS

LAW

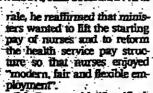
CHESS & HIRE BY

YOUR OWN SUBJECT BOOM & REENE TONY BLAIR yesterday used the beleaguered health service as a means of reasserting the Government's authority and to deflect attention from the recent tide of personality-driven rifts and scandals.

On the first day of the new parliamentary term, the Prime Minister sanctioned an unexpected Commons statement from Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, after a fortnight that has seen emergency wards stretched to the limit. Mr Dobson fell short of

making any new announcements, but he repeated his hope that the Government would be able to fund this year's pay review body recomfull These could be as much as 10 per cent for the lowest paid nurses, in an attempt to

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, in a speech to husiness-men in Edinburgh, took up the theme. Hoping to raise mo-



ployment".

Mr Brown said: "Specifically we have called for the review body to take into account the special circumstances of nurses, particularly nurses starting out in the NHS." Mr Dobson used his Com-



mons appearance to thank NHS staff for their recent efforts. However, he told MPs that the winter crisis, fuelled by the victims turning up at casualty departments, could worsen under a prolonged spell of icy weather.

Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, accused him of complacency, saying that nothing in his statement would make the "slightest bit of difference to those now lying on trolleys in fear, in pain, waiting for treatment".

The Liberal Democrats joined the Opposition in urg-ing the Government to end its headline policy of cutting waiting lists. Simon Hughes, the party's health spokesman, said the "obsession" was jeopardising the quality of treatment throughout the NHS. Mr Dobson was asked re-

peatedly about the extent to

which the treatment of routine waiting list cases was causing Continued on page 2, col 5

to charge Britons

BY JAMES LANDALE AND DANIEL MCGRORY

FIVE Britons detained in Yemen on suspicion of plotting terrorist ourrages are likely to be charged within 48 hours, Rob-in Cook told MPs yesterday.

The Foreign Secretary said that he had obtained assurances from the Yemeni Prime Minister that the men would have access to legal advice. British diplomats had seen four of them, but had been barred from seeing the fifth because he had dual British-Yemeni nationality. He would, however, be granted consular access within 36 hours.

Mr Cook also said that a police expert with experience in hostage negotiations was to be appointed to advise the Foreign Office and foreign govern-ments on their handling of hostage taking

He spoke as Yemeni ministers repeated their promise not to use force to try to free John Brooke, an oilworker from Norwich who was kidnapped on Saturday by tribesmen demanding the release of a com-

rade accused of murder. While it was feared that Mr Brooke could be held captive for weeks, security chiefs were investigating the possible in-volvement of a London group headed by a Muslim deric. known as Abu Hamza, who preaches at a mosque in Finsbury Park, north London, in an alleged plot to blow up British targets on Aden on Christmas Day.

One of the five Britons being held has allegedly confessed that he was paid \$2,000 to bomb the British consulate. the Anglican church and Aden's biggest hotel.

The man, Mohsen Ghailan who has the same name as the stepson of the Londonbased Muslim cleric - also allegedly admitted meeting Abu Hassan, the leader of the gang which abducted 16 western tourists before Christmas.

Mosque training, page 3

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The opinion formers.... Challenging minds in the changing Times



Michael Gove Newspapers are not yet as savage as in the 18th



Libby Purves One can occasionally, pass out hugging a

Prime Minister that the set-

tling of old scores between La-

bour's rival factions has to

one senior Labour MP

spoke yesterday of the need to

avoid a "Thatcher/Lawson sit-

uation", a clear warning to Mr

Blair to ensure his camp-fol-lowers and those of the Chan-

the Parliamentary Labour Par-

ty, said last night that after the

recent episodes there had to be

"a line underneath all that".

He said: 'This business of personal fends between people and people getting into the sort of situation that Peter got

into must be put behind us. It

has happened now but i

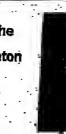
There was support for Rob-

in Cook among Labour MPs after the serialisation of his ex-wife's book. MPs said they did

must n't happen any more."

cellor stop their feuding. Clive Soley, the chairman of





The Government's relaunch torpedoed by the man who sees beyond the spin Simon

TOMORROW



threat we face in 1999 by the Sage of Cricklewood Alan

Mandelson could be back before election

be back in the Cabinet before the end of next year. Downing Street insiders believe.

The riming of such a return to the frontline would allow the former Trade Secretary to perform a high-profile role in the next election campaign. But the speed of his rehabili-

tation would alarm many Labour MPs who believe he should remain out of the lime-light for the rest of this Parlia-

Tony Blair will by warned tomorrow by senior backbenchers that it would "misjudge the mood" for Mr Mandelson to be offered a fast track back to high office after his resignation over his £373,000 home loan from Geof-

frey Robinson. 'it would be too soon. Tony needs to keep his distance from him for a good while yet," one senior Labour MP

There has already been con-

JACK STRAW is to water

down plans to end secrecy io

government. He has decided

to remove the word "substan-

tial" from the harm test which

would decide disclosure of

documents to the public. The change is to be included in the

draft Freedom of Information

A "substantial harm" test would have given Britain the most open freedom of infor-

mation laws in the world and

was set out in last summer's

White Paper after a deal be-

tween the Lord Chancellor.

Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, and

Bill next month.

PETER MANDELSON could cern expressed that Mr Mandelson represented Mr Blair at a meeting last week with one of Gerhard Schröder's ministers to discuss policymaking.

However, Mr Blair is said by friends to see nothing wrong with bringing Mr Man-delson back during the course of next year. Realistically that would either be in a summer reshuffle, in about 18 months, or in an autumn reshuffle gearing up for an early election in the spring of 2001.

One option would be to bring him back not into the Cabinet but as a middle-ranking minister, possibly with re-sponsibility for Europe.

Friends said yesterday that as well as being shocked and bemused by Mr Mandelson's error, Mr Blair has also been angered by the way his friend had let him down. But the pair have been in regular contact since his resignation, includ-ing speaking while Mr Blair

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

David Clark, then Public Serv-

ices Minister, But Mr Straw

drafting the Bill after Dr

Clark was sacked from the

Cabinet - was concerned that

it could compromise police

and intelligence work and as-

ing to offer a compromise giv-ing the public a greater "right

to know about the law en-

forcement agencies including

police, customs, and environ-

mental inspectors. Only infor-

mation relating to prosecu-

However, Mr Straw is will-

sist criminal activities.

who was given charge of



Mandelson: insiders predict Europe role

was on holiday in the Sey-

In his Sunday interview with Sir David Frost, Mr Blair pointedly left open the door to the MP for Hartlepool, saying. "the future will look after it-

MPs also plan to confront Mr Blair over the operation of ministerial spin-doctors, using the departure of Charlie Whelan, the Chancellor's colourful

would be barred. Mr Straw

has asked officials to draw up

separate definitions of harm

for national security, defence

and international relations;

law enforcement; personal pri-vacy; commercial confidential-

the public and the environ-ment information supplied in confidence; and official advice

Maurice Frankel, director

of the Campaign for the Free-

dom of Information, said last

night "It is clear to me that

the substantial harm test is be-

to ministers.

ing whittled away."

safety of the individual.

not believe her assertion that Mr Cook had been a heavy drinker in the late 1980s. "Robin Cook is no George Brown," said one MP, a reference to Labour's Foreign Secre-tary during the 1960s whose drinking habits were notori-Straw keeps secrets code ous and embarrassing to the

party.
Several MPs suggested that
the Government had been seriously damaged during the past few weeks but stressed that the guilty culprits were not leftwingers nor Old Labour MPs, but modernisers.

The Parliamentary Labour Party has kept quiet through-out this period. The finger can-not be pointed at us for what has bappened over Christmas," said one MP.

Another leftwinger said al-most gleefully; The Campaign group has not been responsible for any of this it is the rightwingers, new Labour, that have brought this upon



Nurses struggle with a heavy workload at Newcastle's Royal Victoria Infirmary.

NHS key to relaunch

Continued from page 1 the backlog of emergency cases, but declined to answer. Ministers are expecting to receive the recommendations

of the medical pay review bod-ies in the next few days. Although City forecasts show the Government could afford an above average pay rise for nurses. Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, said that any rise would have to be gradual over three or four

"A more generous settle-

ment this year would have. very serious implications for the NHS," he said. "There will be precious little left of the Government's modernisation fund if nurses are given a big pay rise."

However, Christine Hancock, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, said that even a 5 per cent rise would not make an impact on the nursing shorgage.

"Jam tomorrow is an unacpentable promise. It is nurse shortages that have led to this year's crisis in the NHS. We

cannot provide good patient care when we are short of some 12,000 nurses. A good pay rise would boost numbers mmediately."

In what was seen as a reannch of New Labour, the Government also made clear. that it would use this week to make a number of policy announcements and keynote speeches in a bid to get its modernsing agenda back oo

> Michael Gove, page 16 Leading article, page 17

Kitemark. register for nanny agencies

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A NEW national register for private nantty agencies is to be announced by the Government today as part of package of measures designed to stamp out rogue operators who fail to carry out proper checks on pro-spective employees. The new measures, to be an

nonneed by the Educatic Minister, Margaret Hodge, include the introduction the first kitemark system of accreditation for nanny agen-

Only agencies that under-take to conduct a face-to-face interview with nannies will qualify for a kitemark and for inclusion on the register. The register will be voluntary initially, but may be made com-

pulsory in the future.

The measures follow the Louise Woodward trial in America and a number of high-profile court cases in Britain in which children have died while being cared for by nannies or childminders. Under the new measures

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the Department of Trade and Industry will be given stronger powers to close any agency found not to have properly vet-

ted prospective nannies.

The Government will also produce a leaflet for parents advising them what they should look out for when employing a nanny and what kind of questions to ask a

Local authorities will be issued with new good practice guidelines on vetting childcare workers. In future all child-minders will be asked to provide a copy of their birth and marriage certificates, to ena-ble police checks to be carried out on them under their maiden and married names.

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General Howard rides to the rescue of wounded enemy

Howard yesterday executed a daring rescue of the be-leagured Robin Cook.

Just when Cook's and the

Government's domestic position looked hopeless - ambushed, coralled and mediabashed — who should come riding over the horizon to save them? Hooray! It was the Con-servative Party, led by General Howard. Is it any longer true that ministers are salest when the

Commons is in recess? By the end of the holiday this week-end, things had looked bleak for the Foreign Secretary. An aggrieved ex-wife had laid into him in a savage book.

The press had been merciless. Spinning through the public mind were images of

the elfin Mr Cook with brandy bottle, comatose on a botel floor; tales of fear and loathing in Cabinet; and flights of sexual fancy that took Mr Cook's wispy beard to pillows hither-to undreamed of. Poor Cook, Whence the next blow?



Howard. Phew. Immediately. sympathy switched back to Cook. The testimony of a scorned woman bent on revenge may be Gospel in the Britain of 1999 — but the evidence of the Conservative Party? Ah, unreliable. Who believes them? Don't they have an axe to grind? Unlike Marga-

ret Cook, of course. Cook spoke well on the Yemeni problems, but the mood be-hind him seemed subdued. In the clearest sign yet that new Labour's honeymoon is over, there was only one woman on the government benches in pri-

mary colours. Eleven - more than half - wore black. Faces, male and female, were impassive. The Foreign Secretary was heard in silence and afterwards feebly cheered.
If this was Cook's "fightback" then the lighter was missing crowd-approval.

looking sinister, but I repeat

myself. Reporters dropped

their pencils just because their newspapers were critical of Labour did not mean they wanted to be associated with this Tory lot.
The Shadow Foreign Secretary began harmlessly, with a few inquiries into what is, for a few families in Britain, the most heartbreaking story. He soon forgot this. New Year's

goodwill ran out before he was halfway round the block. Within minutes he was using the Yemen as a stick with which to beat the Government's handling of the Northern Ireland peace process, which he said had involved the release, too early, of convicted terrorists.

There were angry cries of Shame! Cheap! and Disgraceful! from the Labour benches. Whatever their doubts about Mr Cook, this, they felt, was

Then Howard began a personal attack on Cook's compe-

one still kidnapped, this was the Labour side turned to rage. Howard had accom-plished the unlikely feat of turning the villain of Marga-ret Cook's memoir into an object of Commons sympathy.

Cook perked up. With brisk confidence he answered the questions that followed. His recovery had begun.

Then, just as his skies began to clear, who should come gal-loping over the horizon? The scourge of Tony Blair's bombing of Iraq: George Galloway (Lab. Glasgow, Hillhead). And — oh no! — Galloway was supporting Cook.

The last time Mr Galloway hit the front page of The Sun was 12 years ago, when claims surfaced about a torrid epi-sode involving women on the Greek island of Mykonos. The headline was "Gorgeon George Bonked for Britain!" And now the Scot was praishe gushed. With friends like se, who needs enemies?

Teachers back Blunkett's old-style numeracy hour

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TEACHERS' leaders yester-day welcomed a ESS million drive to improve children's numeracy through the daily use of multiplication tables and other traditional methods, but Tories said that the Government should only focus on the worst-performing schools. David Blunkett, the Educa-

tion Secretary, confirmed the introduction of a numeracy hour in primary schools from next September after children involved in pilot projects recorded better results than their peers. Some made an extra 16 months' progress in two years. The daily mathematics lessons of between 45 minutes and an hour will be less closely prescribed than those intro-

duced for literacy last Septem-

The numeracy drive is inrended to meet the Government's target of 75 per cent of 11-year-olds reaching their expected level in mathematics. Every school will have its own target, reflecting the ability of its intake.

Nigel de Gruchy, the general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, welcomed the scheme, but said: "Politicians, including many from the Labour Party. were prominent among those groups of people, pontificating at a very safe distance from the classroom, who somehow

teachers in the 1960s and 70s to give up tried and tested traditional methods." Kay Driver, the general secretary of the Professional Assocation of Teachers, said: The Government appears to have done its own sums and produced a formula which will improve ba-sic standards for pupils."

But David Willetts, the Shadow Education Secretary. said that there was no need for a national scheme. "Good schools already doing well don t need the distraction of being told how to teach, and bad schools won't have enough support to achieve the improvement they need," he said.

Liverpool alarm at DUP move

BY RUSSELL JENKINS POLITICAL leaders in Liver-

pool gave warning yesterday that the establishment of a branch of the Democratic Unionist Party in the area could reopen old sectarian wounds. The prospect of the DUP fielding candidates in the city council elections in May dismayed Mike Storey, the council's Liberal Democrat leader, and also the opposition parties and the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches - whose leaders in the area have long

A local DUP spokesman said it was setting up a branch because of "unprecedented levels of interest" in Unionism from people in the region.

campaigned for tolerance.

Whippet breeding pair were

By Michael Horsnell AND STEWART TENDLER

stabbed

to death

A RECLUSIVE elderly worn-an and her middle-aged unmarried daughter have been found stabbed to death in their remote country home, Norfolk police said yesterday.

Constance Sheridan, 70, and her daughter Janice, 45, were keen breeders of whippers and Miss Sheridan had won prizes at Crufts. When police broke into their home they found more than a dozen of the dogs

As detectives launched a murder hunt with 50 officers police said the pair were found in the lounge of their home at Pingle Bridge, about a mile from the village of Upwell, between Downham Market and Wisbech. They were last seen on Thursday, and their bodies were found on Sunday.

Police were yesterday still searching for next of kin to carry out a formal identification. The two had been living in the area for about ten years.

Police were alerted after John Bromiley, another dog breeder who employed Miss Sheridan to walk his dogs, became worried when she failed to turn up for work on Sunday. When he reached the house there was no reply, but Miss Sheridan's car was in the drive and her dogs were barking furiously. After talking to a neighbour who had not seen them, he decided to call police.

Mr Bromiley said he had known Miss Sheridan, a former poultry factory worker, for five years. He added: "She used to work for me just to earn some pin money to help feed her dogs. She was just a lovely person who lived for her whippets. She had no social life outside her dogs."

Police said both women had died from stab wounds. A police spokesman said: "We are treating the deaths as suspicious until post-mortem examinations have been completed."

He added that detectives believed the women had been stabbed with a knife, but no murder weapon had been found. He said there was no obvious sigo of a break-in, although police could not yet rule out that possibility.

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Young Muslims given military training at mosque in London

Group accused of Yemen plot link spreads message on Internet, write

Adrian Lee and Stephen Farrell

A RADICAL London-based Muslim organisation, which has been linked to a terrorist plot to bomb British targets in Yemen, has a website that depicts a hand grenade and promotes the use of extreme

The Supporters of Shariah used the internet to recruit young people for a camp at which military training was taught. Yesterday the group's leader, Abu Hamza, a prominent Muslim cleric who preaches at the Finsbury Park Mosque in North London, admitted that one of the British subjects being held in Yemen for the alleged plot might be

A second Briton could be one of the organisers of the "Is-lamic Camp" held at the mosque, from Live ber 24 to 26 last year, said Mr Hamza.

The mosque itself — misspelt as Finnsbury — appears prominently on the Supporters of Shariah website, which mixes graphics with English and Arabic text. "Shariah" is Muslim boly law. [] one page, a hand grenade and dumbbell appear above details of study of the Koran and contact numbers for the group's organisers. Elsewhere audio and video tapes are offered at £1 and £5, and supporters are urged to contact Abu lamza at his e-mail address. Mr Hamza, who initially claimed that he did not know

any of the five men under sus-

was simply a cartoon and that the camp, attended by 30 young men, was arranged to distract them from Christmas sion". At the camp, men were taught "to become like military men, to become a solbelieved in the use of violence to counter state terrorism: "I

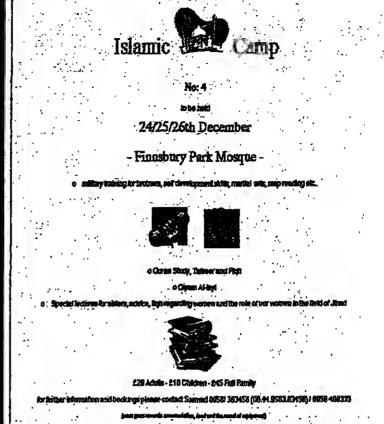
write about what I believe

in."The website also advertisand the role of our women in the field of Jihad Iholy war!" If carries a 17-page "declaration of war" against the United States by Osama bin last August's bombing of American targets in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed 224 people. The tract contains the exhortation: The wails of oppression and humiliation cannot be demotished except

in a rain of bullets." Yesterday Mr Hamza, 41, accused the Yemeni authorities of trying to blacken his name. He confirmed that the name of one of those arrested. Mohsen stepson, but said that it was also possible that someone had used his documents and those of another suspect, Sarmad Ahmed, to implicate them both in the plot.

Mr Hamza's natural son. Mohammed Kamel Mustapha. 17, is believed to be in Yemen, where he is wanted by





Abu Hamza and the Internet advertisement for the camp, which he says was arranged to distract young men from Christmas television

ه کدر من رائع مل

the authorities. On the web-site, those interested in the camp are asked to reply to Sarmad and a mobile telephone number is listed. One of the Britons under arrest in Yemen is Sarmad Ahmed, 21, an accountaries student from Yardlev. Birmingham. A man an-

yesterday said that he had bought it from a man called Sarmad and that the previous owner was in Yemen.

The website says that Supporters of Shariah members have been supporting the Mu-jahidin as well as refugees in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kashmir swering the mobile telephone as well as the frontline sol-

diers". Mr Harnza, who was born in Egypt, has no hands and claims to have lost them while fighting with the Mujahidin. He has been a British citizen since 1985 and holds a

degree in civil engineering. Relatives of Mohsen Ghailan, from Hammersmith. West London, whose parents were born in Morocco, poured scorn on allegations by the Yemeni authorities that he was a terrorist, His aunt, Susan Faoud, said yesterday: "He is young - what does he know about arms?" He was an engineering student who was widely travelled and had visited Yemen to broaden his mind, she said.

She added that her Frenchborn fiance. Abdharam James, 25, who was with the five Britons, had also been seized by the authorities in Yemen. She said that her nephew had no links to Supporters of Shariah, nor Mr Hamza.

She said: "They just need someone to blame. They have picked on a child." Families of the detainees

gathered in Birmingham yesterday to campaign for their release. Monica Davis, 23, a student from Luton, Bedfordshire, said that her husband, Ghulam Hussein, 25, was apolitical, in poor health, and had simply gone to Yemen for

He and two other Britons Malik Harhara, 26, and Shaheed Akran Bet, have no known links with the Supporters of Ms Davis said that her hus-

band travelled to Yemen on December 18, expecting her and their 18-month-old daughter, Hannah, to fly out a week later. She said: "We are finding it very difficult to get any help from the British Government. They have not contacted any of the families and it's disgusting. They are English nationals and you would have expected something to have been done.

"He went out to Yemen on his own and 1 think what's happened is that, being in an Arab country, you tend to lis-ten out for English-speaking people and that's what my husband did. He has got talking to other people and he has been rounded up with them and lumped together." Ghayasuddin Siddiqui, lead-

er of the self-styled Muslim parliament in Britain, said that he "deplored" Mr Hamza's extreme views. He said: You will always find people in any society with views like this man and I find what he has to say deplorable and I am dismayed by his thoughts.

"I do not think that the vast majority of Muslims will share this man's views and it harms our cause and reflects badly on our religion."

Held captive in Yemen Ghulam Hussein, Shahid Bett, Sarmad Ahmed and Malik Nassar Harhara Oxford ban

on protest students

By HANNAH BETTS

SIX Oxford students were banned from the university's premises yesterday as the cadline expired for protesters ver tuition fees to abandon

their campaign and pay up.
The six cannot be entered for university examinations or use the Bodleian Library. On Sunday, the first day of term, the identity cards that allow them access to university facili-

tics will be removed.

One student at St Hilda's
College and two at Somerville have declared in writing to the university their intention not to pay. A further three have ignored the deadline for payment, in effect adding them-selves to the list of banned students. They are campaigning gainst the introduction by the overnment of a £1,000 charge for undergraduates.

The students will be able to use their college libraries and take part in college tutorials, although they will be barred from university lectures.

No payout over squirrel's visit

to their house after a three-day holiday to find that it had been ransacked, causing damage amounting to £5,000. Desmond and Veronica

Green's home was strewn with broken crockery, pictures had been pulled down and the curtains were hanging in rib-

But their insurance company has refused to pay for the damage because the culprit which probably fell down a chimney — was a squirrel. The company says that it does not cover damage by most ani-

Mr Green, 7i, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, said: "It is bad enough having such a strange thing happen to you, the damage the squirrel has caused is amazing But for your insurance company to say there is nothing it can do is nediculous."

A neighbour came face-toface with the intruder after the couple's alarm went off while

A RETIRED couple returned they were in London visiting

Mr Green said: The squirrel looked at him and then bolted further into the house. After a lengthy struggle and a lot of chasing he managed to usher the animal out of the house. There was stuff everywhere, broken china in the hall and on the stairs, nibbled picture frames on the floor, an antique

chair was attacked." A spokesman for the insur-ers, Saga, said that while its cover excluded damage by most animals the company was considering amending its policy in future.

Mr Green said: "The matter is now in the hands of my solic-itor, who is seeing if there have heen any other cases like it." Dave Dawson, of the London Ecology Unit, said squirreis were not known as home

wreckers though they could cause minor damage by nest-ing in lofts. But he added:

"Any animal will go crazy if it

Brit award record for the taking

By ALEX O'CONNELL

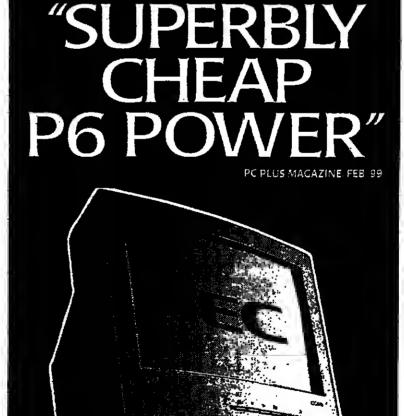
ROBBIE WILLIAMS last night rounded off a year in which he was transformed from also-ran to superstar with a record number of nominations at the Brit Awards.

The former member of the defunct boy band Take That is up for a dozen awards including Best Single for Angels and Millennium, a song he has said he dislikes.
Williams, who is engaged to

the All Saint singer Nicole Appleton, has also been nominated for Best British Male. Best Album for I've Been Expecting You and for two entries in Best British Video.

Trailing him with five nominations are Massive Attack. Gomez, Catatonia, the Manic Street Preachers and Fat Boy Slim each received three nomi-

The Eurythmics are to receive this year's award for Outstanding Contribution to British Music at the ceremony on



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Greek tragedy of long-lost loves

John Carr on an unhappy ending to romance of couple parted by war

AN 90-YEAR-OLD Greek woman who had waited almost 60 years to be reunited with the Italian soldier she loved died on Sunday, less than a year before the couple were finally to wed. In a drama that could have

been lifted from the pages of Captain Corelli's Mandolin. Angeliki Stratigou ended her lonely life in a hospital in the western Greek city of Patra. expecting that her Second World War romance with Luigi Surace would finally lead them both to the altar at the end of this year. At her funeral yesterday.

relatives described bow hours before her death Signorina Stratigou received two postcards from Signor Surace ending with the phrase "Amore Sempre", or eternal love. Doctors said she suf-



Angeliki Stratigou and Luigi Surace after 53 years apart

failure. "If Aspetto Con Grande Amore" (I await you with great love) were reportedly her last words to Signor Surace, 81, who his unwell at his home in Reggio Calabria, southern Italy. His relatives

had not yet been told of Signorina Strafigou's death. The two were brought together after a 53-year separa-tion by reporters on Skai, a television network, after Signor Surace's letters to his

were repeatedly re-

non-commissioned officer who wooed her with food from the Italian Army's stores when hundreds of Greeks were dying of starvation. When those Italian soldiers who survived German acres had to leave, Signor Surace asked for her hand. But Signorina Stratigou, fearing for her reputation if she married an Italian, re-His first letters to his war-

turned. The couple met in 1941, when Axis forces over-

ran Greece. Signorina Stratigou said she remem-

bered Luigi as a handsome

time love apparently having got nowhere, Signor Surace's thoughts turned again to her after his wife died in 1995. He wrote to Patra City Council. which notified Skai TV. Reporters arranged the couple's reunion last February.



A ten-year-old British boy has become the youngest chess player to qualify for a national championship final (Elizabeth Judge writes).

Murugan Thiruchelvam, above. qualified for the British Chess Championship after taking second place in the Fulprint York Open with four wins and a draw from five games. He has broken the world record by more

Nigel Short, a grandmaster, currently ranked second in the country and the British world title challenger,

Boy's pieces of history

qualified for the championship when he was II. Murugan, from New Malden, southwest London, will now compete for the Smith and Williamson Britsh Championship in August. The feat was Murugan's fourth

world record. At the age of six, he became the youngest tournament win-ner. Last October he became the

youngest person to draw with a grandmaster and to achieve a rating equivalent to that of an international master's. In 1997, within a few months, he won the British Under-8s Chess Championship, the England Under-II and

London Under-12 titles. Grete White, the British Chess Fedcration manager, said: "This is very

exciting and we look forward to seeing even higher performances. He is regarded as an outstanding prospect as well as a level-headed child."

Murugan began playing chess when he was three after seeing his brother playing on a computer. Nei-ther his father, Kandiah, nor his mother, Shantha, who came to Britain from Sri Lanka 20 years ago, play. His mother said: "He really is a normal boy, who supports Manchester United and likes computer games, but also happens to be good at chess."

Inmates praise tough regime at 'boot camp'

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT.

OFFENDERS at the only "boot camp" in England and Wales have praised the tough regime of drill and physical exercise provided there, according to an inspection report published today.

The young inmates even complained that they were bored at weekends when no organised activities were provided by the special unit at Thorn . Cross young offender institu-tion at Warrington, Cheshire. They told Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Prisons, that the rigorous 16-hour daily regime was bet-ter than at any other prison in-stitution in the country.

They found the six-month programme "positive, con-structive but hard". It combines strenuous physical activi-ty with the teaching of social and life skills and vocational training in work such as plastering, catering and motor me-

Sir. David's report praises the institution and particular-ly the High Intensity Training Unit - the part of Thorn Cross that has been dubbed a "boot camp". He praised the integration of academic and physical education into the daily programme, and the use of challenging outdoor pursuits

and of work in the community. His report says prisoners are subjected to a very long and physically demanding day, which starts at 6am with :

Health Secretary.

the allegations made by

er who went on the run in 1996. His claims that drugs and pomography were freely

the cleaning of the unit, inspections and drill. They continue with formal activities, including up to four hours' physical education a day, until 8.30pm. Lights are put out at 10pm. Sir David says: "Young pris-

oners' rooms were inspected daily and they were expected to maintain military-style standards with kit arranged in the prescribed way and highly polished boots.

Young prisoners also took responsibility for cleaning the whole unit and jobs were rotated so that all were involved. Young prisoners clearly took a great deal of pride in this area. of their work and the standard of cleanliness was the highest

we have seen in a prison."
"Drill training" was an important element of the regime and used to encourage discipline, team spirit and confidence. "At the weekends there was a full parade with a governor's inspection. Young prisoners were provided with a best' uniform for such occasions. which they also wore when on visits. Physical education was maintained throughout the programme with all young prisoners completing at least one session daily," the report says. The outdoor pursuits course was particularly physically demanding, and encouraged leadership and teamwork in a harsh environment.

vious of those who were. They complained that those in the boot camp; got the best of everything.

The report said that 218 of fenders had joined the special unit, but only 161 had successfully completed all stages. Offenders who failed did so because they absconded or did not keep to the strict condi-tions under which they worked in the community

Sir David found the high-intensity programme one of the most exciting developments in the Prison Service. It was an inspiring attempt to create a ers completing the course had a real opportunity to benefit from the experience of being in print on, something far removed from the often very destructive nature of prison life."

A second boot camp, run by the Army at the Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester, Essex, was closed last year after 12 months because the Government said the results did not warrant the E31,000 a year it cost per inmate. The findings of a study of the Colchester experiment have not yet been published. An evaluation of the cost

and effectiveness of the experiment at Thorn Cross in preventing reoffending is to be published this summer.

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Knox's spirit could save MSPs

By JASON ALLARDYCE SCOTTISH POLITICAL REPORTER

POLITICIANS could be reduced to smuggling beer into Scotland's first parliament in 300 years to get round an alcohol ban, a senior candidate claimed last night

Angus Robertson, who will be standing for the Scottish National Party, described the prohibition that will apply during the first two years of the administration as "ridiculous".

The rule was imposed by the Church of Scotland, which is allowing Assembly Hall, the base for its annual general assembly, to be used as the par-

liament's temporary home until a purpose-built complex at Holyrood is ready in 2001.

At Westminster, much of the real business is conducted in six bars and function rooms with bars. Several restaurants are also licensed to serve alcohol, and drink costs about two thirds of the commercial rate.

Mr Robertson, 29, a Guin-ness drinker who has worked as a journalist all over Europe. said: "This will be the first parliament in the western world without a bar. You can imagine all these Members of the Scottish Parliament walking about with plastic bags con-

Dennis Canavan, the La-

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bour MP who is standing as an independent in Falkirk after being rejected as an offidal Labour candidate, was equally unimpressed. An Edinburgh drinker in his student days, Mr Canavan suggested that MPs could perhaps get around the problem by nam-

ing the bar after John Knox, a

hardline preacher in the Scot-

tish Reformation who lived in

the capital "Maybe the Church could be persuaded to give us a special dispensation to have a temporary bar which we could call John Knox's pulpit where we could get regular spiritual

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A Church of Scotland

spokesman said it was normal to impose a prohibition on the sale and supply of alcohol in church buildings on the basis that this was inappropriate. He suggested, however, that it might be acceptable for Ministers to provide alcohol at receptions and for MSPs to have a tipple after a day of debating.

A spokesman for the Scot-tish Office said that the plans for the Holyrood building included a bar and dining areas may also be licensed. . In the meantime, Edin-

burgh's pubs are bracing themselves for a mass invasion by the 129 MSPs and their staff, and are already applying for late licences.



Lamprey: shows that the river is deaner

Welcome back to an ugly vampire

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

IT IS not usually one of nature's most pleasing sights, but yesterday an ugly marine vampire was being welcomed to a Welsh river. Widespread findings of lamprey on the Usk are an indication that conservation work is paying off.

The lamprey, once considered a delicacy by royalty, needs clean, healthy water to thrive. The fish was discovered at nearly 40 sites on the river in South Wales.

The sea lamprey, the largest of the three main varieties, returns to the river of its birth to spawn and can grow to 4ft in length and 55lb in weight. Un-like other fish, it has no scales or jaws and is covered in a thick layer of protective mu-cus. The elusive parasites attach themselves to sea prey

and drain their blood.

The migratory fish have been in long-term decline in many rivers because access to spawning grounds has been blocked by dams, weirs and barrages. The lampreys found by the survey were mainly in their larval form in which

they resemble earthworms. Only when the fish is fully grown will it migrate down-stream in search of suitable prey. Tristan Hanon-Ellis, freshwater ireshwater ecologist for the Countryside Council for Wales, said: "They mainly feed at sea on whatever is available. They tend not to attack fresh-water lish."

The death of Henry I in Normandy in 1135 was blamed on his eating surfeit of lampreys. They are said to

be best stewed with wine. The Great Lakes of Canada are also suffering a surfeit of lampreys as an invasion of the seagoing variety is destroying stocks of native fish. Unlike most species of marine fish, which have co-evolved with the lamprey, those in the Great Lakes had not encountered them before. The result has been a vampyric massacre that has cost the fishing industry millions in lost catches.

CORRECTION

An article, Organic farming takes root in the South Danu-ary 8], should have explained that the research was done by Ruth Arber, of Coventry University, under the supervision

Ashworth inquiry backs drugs and porn claims

Inmates not on the high-

intensity programme were en-

BY MARK HENDERSON

CONVICTED sex offenders at available and paedophile activity commonplace were initiala Merseyside secure hospital were allowed to play with chilly dismissed by the hospital. dren without supervision and Mr Dobson is expected to andeal in pornography and nounce a reorganisation of drugs, a report reveals today.

The findings of the public in-Britain's secure hospitals to

prevent a similar scandal. Patients at Ashworth, Rampton in Nottinghamshire and quiry into Ashworth Special. Hospital, set up after a patient abscorded and blew the whis-Broadmoor in Berkshire will tle on the tax regime, will be face stricter conditions, with presented to the House of mons by Frank Dobson, the The inquiry is said to have

reached "devastating" conclu-sions, and to uphold almost all Stephen Daggett, a sex offend-

perks such as videos and computers banned. There are also plans to hold violent offenders with untreatable, personality disorders" in special prison

units rather than hospitals. The inquiry, chaired by the retired judge Peter Fallon, QC, started sitting in November 1996 and has heard alarming evidence of staff lapses and se-

rious crimes at the hospital. lowed to visit a convicted paedophile, and was often seen dressed only in underpants be-ing given piggy back rides of bounced on his knee, the in-

quiry was told. Patients were allowed to design and build a garden rid-dled with hiding places for drugs and spots where they could not be observed by nurses. and several ran illegal businesses from their rooms.

Alcohol, drugs and pornography were openly available. Staff were often involved in the rackets, and illegal tapes were so widespread that more than 800were seized in one search.

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	Gross	Rate .	. Al	ER · ·
A SECTION AND A SECTION ASSESSMENT	. : Old .	New	Old .	New
Current and Deposit Accounts for Private C	lients			
Current Account with Cash Management O	ptiou*	٠		
Mortgage Reserve Account* and Reserve Ac	count			· · ·
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999,993,000,023	4.05%	3.80%	4.111%	3.85%
£20,000-£49,999	3.25%	3.00%	3.289%	3.03%
£5,000-£19,999	2.75%	2.50%		
		2-3070	2.778%	2.52%
3 Month Notice Reserve Account for Private	e and Business	Clients	٠.	
£50,000+	5.625%	5.38%	5.744%	5.49%
£25,000-£49,999	4.50%	4-25%	4.576%	4.32%
£10,000-£24,999	4.00%	3.75%	4.060%	3,80%
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£250,000-£1 million	3.65%	3.40%	3.70%	-3.44%
£100,000-£249,999	3.40%	3.15%	3.443%	3.1996
£25,000-£99,999	3.20%	2.95%	3.238%	2.98%
£10,000-£24,999	2.60%	2.35%	2.625%	2.37%
Day Notice Deposit Account for				
rivate and Business Clients	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	L00%
TESSA	6.25%	6.00%	6.398%	6.14%
Charity TESSA	5.625%	5.40%		
	. 4-5-40-6	J-TU 70	5.744%	5.51%

Interest is paid quarterly, except for 7 Day Notice Deposit Accounts, on which interest is paid half yearly. Interest is paid only on the portion of the cleared balance which exceeds £5,000.

The Annual Equivalent Rate (AER) is the notional rate which shows the gross interest rate as if

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regiment Came disabled pensioner disabled pensioner officer took money while giving an searched. The officers became suspicious and searched.

A POLICE officer stole £700: from an 83-year-old disabled woman after calling at her. home to give advice on crime prevention, a court was told

Kenneth Davies, an officer with West Yorkshire Police for almost six years, has denied stealing the money from the home of Doris Midwood between January 1 and 18 last year. He has been suspended on full pay since his arrest almost a year ago.

Simon Goose, for the prosecution, told the jury at Leeds Crown Court that Mrs Midwood regularly put £50 from her pension in a box in her home. She stored the money in Larger of £20 notes separated by an envelope from a layer of ElO notes.

In December 1997 she con-tacted the police station near her home in Shipley for advice

on crime prevention, and PC Davies was sent to her flat. Mrs Midwood, who is in a wheelchair, told the jury: "He asked me where I kept my money and I said it was in a

box in my bureau." The court was told that PC Davies said she should keep it in a safe tin. He helped her to hide the money and promised to return with an alarm and tins. He returned on January 10 with two safe tins and Mrs Midwood gave him her box of money to hold.

After filling one of the tins, PC Davies told her to hide it in a kitchen cupboard. She took it into the kitchen, leaving him alone with her savings. When she returned, he handed her the second tin to hide in the cupboard. He then left the house, saying he would return

with locks for the doors.

But that evening she be-

PC Davies said he would have returned the money.

came wheried about the money. "I was sure he couldn't have put it all in the tins and I was curious," she said. "I opened the tins and there was. only a few £10 notes. He had taken the £20 notes, which I had kept separate. I never saw

him again."

Mrs Midwood alerted police and two officers visited PC Davies's home on January 21. PC Davies went upstairs. changed his top and said that he wanted to walk his dog

later, PC Davies admitted taking £700. He said: "I removed some notes from a box and I put them inside my jacket pocket." Later in the interview he said: "It was a dishonest

Davies, 44, from Bradford, admitted in court that he had taken the money, but said that he had immediately wanted to give it back and had not stolen it. He told the jury that, at the time of the incident, he was under stress. He had suffered depression since the death of his mother-in-law in 1996 and the death of his daughter's boyfriend in 1997.

He told the court that he took the money home for safekeeping, intending to return it

"It was confusing and frightening. I was scared for my family, for my job, for my house and for my kids," he said. The trial continues.



Kenneth Clarke yesterday: "In the rainforest, it is extremely difficult to shave"

GREAT ITALIAN DESIGN

Clarke's weeks on the wild side

By MARK INGLEFIELD POLITICAL REPORTER

BEARDING Tory conven-tion, Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancelior, returned from his holiday in Barbados yesterday sporting a chinful of rugged bristles. The new look, Mr Clarke said, was the result of the tropical conditions, which precluded the use of a razor. "I've been on a birdwatching holiday in the rain-

difficult to shave," he said. Perhaps aware that no Con-servative leader has had facial hair since the days of Anthony Eden and Harold Macmillan Mr Clarke said that he intended to dispose of the whiskers upon returning to his constituency home in Nottingham-shire.

Some of those close to Mr Clarke, however, thought he might change his mind. He had, after all, once revealed an intention to grow an "Ernest Hemingway-type beard", and his current crop is not unlike those favoured by the Fifties jazz musicians he reveres.

Panel of seven to rule on Pinochet

By Frances GIBB

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT SEVEN law lords have been appointed to rehearse General Prochers appeal in the House of Lords next week. The decision for a rare sitting of seven, rather than the usual five, was announced, yesterday as the law lords held a special meeting with Lord Hoffmann.

It was the first time Lord

It was the first time Lord Hoffmann has met his colleagues since they were forced: to set aside their ruling because he failed to disclose links with Annesty Interna-The hour-loog meeting field out of a bankering for the past and for tribal badges cuss new ground rules on discourse of interests and avoid a Wigs. Six Richard says. repear fiasco - was enfirely

Lord Hoffmann's future is not thought to have been discussed and he is not believed to have offered any apology for what happened. Nor was one sought for making them what one judge has called "a laughing stock".

But some senior judges fear that he is preparing to ride out the storm, and a number feel that he should resign.

The seven law lords who will rehear the case next Mon-are Lords Browne-Wilkinare Lords Browne-Wilkin-sta, Goff of Chieveley, Hope of Craighead, Hutton, Saville of Newdigate, Millett and Phillips. The first four were on the panel that decided unanimously to set aside the original House of Lords ruling before Christmas. The remaining three have not been involved with the case at all.

Later this week the law lords will publish their reasons for setting aside the 3-2 ruling denying General Pinochet immu-nity from prosecution.

Wigs give law a bad name, says judge

By FRANCES GUE

ONE of the most semor judges in England has called for the abolition of wigs, which he says are positively damaging to the image of the civil justice system.

Sir Richard Scott, who as Vice Chancellor is head of the High Court Chancery Division, says that wigs present a picture of the law that is anti-

quated and foolish". He also castigates judges who want to keep wigs as behaving like "dichards who still: wear top hats in the hunting field out of a bankering for

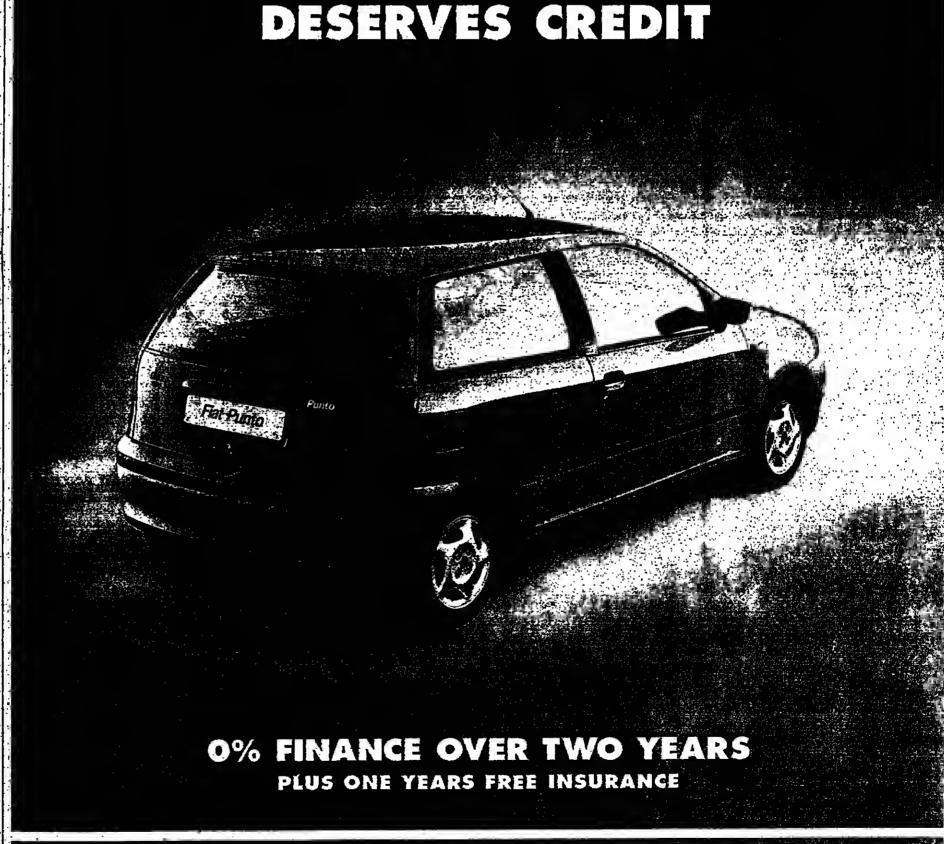
make judges appear to be out of touch with the country inhabited by the litigants before them and also make remarks of the "Who is Gazza?" variety seem typical, rather than an: aberration.

"The wearing of wigs allows, almost encourages: a cruel parody of the judicial process and of the judges who preside over it. They are also uncomfortable, scratchy and of questionable hygienic quality, even if they no longer provide a home for a variety of tiny

Sir Richard, who was born. in South Africa, makes his remarks in the liner Temple yearbook. A keen hunting follower, he has already staged a revolt over the wearing of top hats in the hunting field. He wore one with reluctance until the early 1980s, when a friend vearing a top hat was killed

while hunting.

Lord trvine of Lairg, the
Lord Chancellor, has protested about the wearing of his own wig as Speaker of the House of Lords, complaining Law, page 37 that it "weighs a ton".





The prototype pyramid put on show in Birmingham

Pyramid house is a hot property

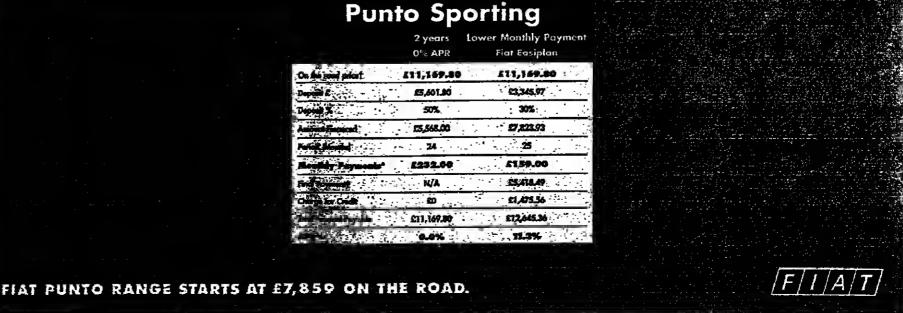
THE solar-powered pyramid of the future, announced by BP yesterday, not only generates enough power to be selfsufficient, it can light up its

neighbours too. BP believes the Solar Show-case is the way we will all live one day. The £500,000 demonstration model will even work not known for unbroken skies. The 1,000 sq ft building, to

be constructed in the spring, is designed to show what can be

nology in the field. BP Solar will use the pyramid as a visifor centre at the entrance of an industrial park being created in Port Talbot

A smaller prototype of the building was erected in Birmingham last year to impress world leaders attending the G8 summit. The new 30ft high building will have more than 170 solar panel generating



THIS INCLUSE ON THE ROAD COSTS OF LATH FOR DELIVERY TO DEALER, PLATES AND IZ MONTHS ROAD RING LICENCE CORRECT AT THE OF FRINTING 26/12/18/18 PHANCE OFFES SHD 31/1/99. THE APPL SHOWN ARE SUBJECT TO INFORM DEPOSTS SHOWN IN THE TRALE "AN ADDRESS OF ALL SHOWN ARE SUBJECT TO DEPOST SHOWN IN THE TRALE SHOWN ARE SUBJECT TO THE RING PROPERTY OF AN ADDRESS OF ALL SHOWN ARE SUBJECT TO THE RING PROPERTY OF AN ADDRESS OF ADDRE

Father's rural classic puts Bell in shade

Tale of rural life 70 years ago is back in print and there are plans for a TV serialisation, reports Robin Young

MARTIN BELL, the Independent MP for Tatton, is about to be overshadowed once more by his late father, an essayist, novelist and original begetter of *The Times* crossword.

Adrian Bell's bestselling book. Corduroy, written in 1930 and telling how he came from the city to live and work on a small Suffolk farm, has just returned to print for the first time in 20 years.

Now, in what Martin Bell suggests might become "a sort of agricultural Ballykissangel", there are plans to follow the republication of the book with a television series.

Corduray, Adrian Bell's account of his apprenticeship to a Suffolk farmer, was a classic in its day and exercised a spell

TOWNIE'S FLIGHT

"I was upon the fringe of Suffolk, a country rich in agricultural detail, missed by my untutored eye. It was but scenery to menor had I an inkling of what more it might become. Farming, to my mind, was as yet the townsman'a glib catalogue of creatures and a symbol of escape. The true friendliness of the scene before me lay beneeth ardours of which I

scene cerore me lay beneeth ardours of which I knew nothing.
"I was flying from the threat of an office life. I was twenty years old, and the year was 1920." on soldiers and airmen in wartime Britain, many of whom dreamt of turning to farming after the end of hostilities.

Last October, when The Sunday Times, on behalf of the Folio Society, asked its readers to name the best book on country life to complete a list of 20th-century classics. Corduroy won by a field's length.

A television company, DLT Enfertainment, which made Love on a Branch Line and As Time Goes By, has now acquired the rights from Martin Bell's elder sister, Anthea. She is the English translator of the Asterix cartoons and, Martin Bell concedes, the "real braine" of the family.

brains" of the family.

The book is a rich mulch of rural nostalgia, sheaves and stacks and steam-powered threshing machines of the 1920s, the like of which a distant kinsman of the MP. Frank Lythgoe, an avid collector of steam engines and agricultural brica-brac, still has at Lymp in Cheshire.

at Lymm in Cheshire.

After his apprenticeship, in which he rose to be a farm manager, Bell succeeded in making a living off 89 acres of heavy clay at Redisham, in east Suffolk. In the meantime, just before the success of Corduroy, he was paid three guineas for the first crossword used in The Times, (printed on February 1, 1930, and repeated on the same date in 1995), though he had never solved a crossword before, let alone set one.

word before, let alone set one. He went on to supplement



Adrian Bell compiled the first Times crossword in 1930. He said the activity was "the ideal job for a chap with a vacant mind sitting on a tractor"

his agricultural and literary income by compiling a further 4.520 puzzles, including the golden jubilee crossword that appeared 50 years after his ini-

His length of service won him a place in The Guinness Book of Records as the most durable crossword compiler then known, but Bell's explanation was simple. "Crossword compiling," he said, "was the

ideal job for a chap with a vacant mind sitting on a tractor harrowing clods."

If Corduroy proves a televisual success (and the public's appetite for series such as those based on James Herriott's All Creatures Great and Small and H.E. Bates's The Darling Buds of May makes it surprising only that no one thought to snap up the rights before this), there is a rich vein to be exploited. Cordural was but the first part of a top-selling trilogy, of which Silver Ley and The Cherry Tree are the later volumes.

Other books by Bell include Apple Acre and The Budding Morrow, the latter a vivid personal account of farming in wartime Britain. He also wrote a weekly country column for the Eastern Daily. Press in Norfolk for 30 years.

Martin Bell describes his father as "very clever, but very shy", and remembers him "spending hours in his study, groaning a lot", but he adds: "Soldiers and airmen used to read Corduror in the Penguin is sad that his father did not

They wrote to him from their bivonacs and tank turrets about their dreams of a farming life when the war was over. It inspired and encourhe regrets
pledge to
retire

MARTIN BELL yesterday repeated, "with regret", his piedge to stay in perliament for only one term, leaving the once-safe Conservative seat likely to be snatched back by the Tories.

"I said publicly that I would stand for one term only and I stand by that. I regret it because I am enjoying myself," he said. "Breaking that promise would undermine whatever I can achieve in the term, because people would say, Look there's another politician breaking a promise."

Mr Bell, a former foreign correspondent, stood for the Cheshire seat of Tation on an anti-corruption ticket. He safely yesterday that he would not see any candidate for the seat. One of the most hotly contested seats at the last election, it is expected to be swamped by former Tory MPs.

by former Tory MPs.

Among those said to be looking for a safe seat are the former ministers Michael Portillo. William Waldegrave, Malcolm Rifkind and Sir Michael Forsyth; the former Governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten; the defeated MPs Sebastion Coe and Gyles Brandreth; and Claistine Hamilton, whose histiand, Neil, was displaced as the local member by Mr Bell.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Harbour chief on oil spill charge

A harbourmaster goes on trial today, charged with negligence that led to one of Britain's worst oil pollution incidents. Captain Mark Andrews faces three charges arising from the leaking of 72,000 tonnes of crude oil from the tanker Sea Empress, which devastated marine and bird life along the West Wales coast.

If found guilty at Cardiff Crown Court, Captain, Andrews, 44, faces an unlimited fine and up to two years in jail. Milford Haven Port Authority also faces two charges of negligence. It is accused of allowing an insufficiently trained pilot to bring the vessel into port.

to bring the vessel into part.

The oil was spilt when the tanker hit rocks in February 1996. The pollution badly hit the local economy, and the tourism and fishing industries are still struggling to recover.

Poison warning

A warning of the fatal risk posed by faulty fires and boilers is being delivered with fuel bills in Wales and the West Midlands, where the most deaths occur. Across Britain, 438 people died from carbon monoxide poisoning in 1987-96.

Driving seat

Roy Barsley, 56, a Labour councillor banned from driving for 21 months for being twice over the drink limit, will continue to chair Notinghamshire's police advisory committee, which backed a Christmas campaign against drink-driving.

Refugee death

The body of a suspected illegal immigrant from Iraq has been found at Dover ferry terminal. Police believe he was a Kurdish refugee who had been holding on under a lorry. Three Iraqi Kurds have been detained by immigration officers.

Murder charge

A man was been remanded in custody, charged with the murder of Christopher Swales, 15, of Skegness, Lincolnshire, whose body was found on a beach. Neil Walgate, 32, of Skegness, appeared before magistrates in the town.

Forger jailed

A 25-year-old graphics student was jailed for two years for making forged E5 and E10 notes to buy heroin: Lee Dudley, of Huthwaite, Nottinghamshire, admitted having counterfeiting materials with intent at Nottingham Crown Court.

Cotswolds USA

A ranch owner in Atlanta, Georgia, has ordered 400 tonnes of Cotswold stone — a record shipment to the United States — for a wall around his land. The stone, from a company in Northleach, Gloucestershire, is being sent next week.

Thatcher joins a bastion of Englishness

BY ALAN HAMILTON

live to see the translation of his

work to the television screen,

he is relieved that he did not

witness the final destruction of

English agriculture as he had

TO SOME, the is the quintessential. English womant: the grocer's daughter homed. Boadfora. To others, she stands for everything that England should not be in the touchy feely age of new Labour. To the Royal Society of St George, Baroness Thatcher is the new vice-president.

Lady Thatcher has accepted an invitation to join the society, which has 10,000 members and is dedicated to "England and Englishness", but is "about patriotism rather than nationalism".

The society, founded in 1894 to offer support to the sons of England scattered across the Empire, now runs a charitable trust providing funds for youth and community projects to foster "duty, loyalty

and service to England."

Lady Thatcher joins a line of vice-presidents with impercably English credentials, including the Duke of Westminster, the present Duke of Wellington, Earl Nelson of Trafalgar and Merton, and Field Marshal Lord Bramall, a former Chief of the General Staff and now Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London.

William Firth, chairman of the society, said yesterday that Lady Thatcher exemplified the English trait of determination, but denied that his society was right-wing or in any way politically active.

I am a unionist, and I dislike Little Englanders. The essence of Englishness is the ability to absorb other people



Lady Thatcher: helped amputee football team

B.F. E. ...

-

and ideas into a mainstream of continuity," he said.

The real reason that Lady Thatcher was a heroine to the society, Mr Firth disclosed, was that, when Prime Mindater, she offered personal her and encouragement to the England Amputee Football Club, which the society was sponsoring at the time. When one of its players died of cancer, she wrote a particularly

touching letter of condolence.
The society believes in "polite patriotism". Should it not, therefore, have offered the job to John Major, whose Englishr vision of warm beer and village cricket was a good deal more polite than his predecessor's obsession with poll tax and there being no such thing

as society?

Mind you, she did try the first out on the Scots, and sales the second to an andience in Edinburgh. Trust the English to offload their dafter ideas on foreigners.

London appoints a 'drugs czar'

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A VETERAN of the Leah Betts case has been recruited by Scotland Yard to become the first anti-drugs co-ordinator for London.

Commander Andy Hayman, 39, takes control of a new directorate at the Yard as police research shows a third of suspects arrested in London have drug finks. Initial figures from stations across London show that a high percentage of crimes involving shoplifting house burglary and thefis from cars, are linked to drugs. Mr Hayman, who will today unveil a £250,000 poster and radio advertising campaign on the links between drugs and crime, was recruited by Sir Paul Condon, the

and radio advertising campaign on the links between drugs and crime, was recruited by Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, from the Essex force within a few weeks of completing a senior officers

training course.

He initiated anni-drugs campaigns after the death of Leah

Betts from Ecstasy in 1995. He gave evidence to a House of Lords committee looking and drugs, helped to set up an award-winning schools programme and is now working part-time on an MSc in criminology at Cambridge.

nology at Cambridge.

His drugs directorate, one of only two in the country, will have four senior officers working on assessing the extent of drug use and targeting dealers and markets. There were 34.713 drug convictions in London between April 1997 and

April 1998.

Mr Hayman said that he a planned to develop drug referral schemes so that suspects who had identifiable problems could receive treatment.

He said that he planned to scrap the traditional "talk and chalk" approach of classroom lectures and make greater use of techniques such as road-shows and pop music shows with anti-drug messages.

ا هڪذا عن زيزعل:

Payout adds to anguish in Dunblane

A TEACHER who helped to identify dead and injured chil-dren after the Dunblane massacre has been awarded compensation for mental trauma, while some bereaved families have yet to receive a penny.

Linda Stewart, 48, a nursery teacher, has received an interim payment from the Crimi-Injuries Compensation Board. A parent of a child who died said that he and other families were still waiting to hear about their claims.

The CICB confirmed that it has so far paid out £2.8 million in awards to 131 individuals from Dunblane, 80 for psycho-logical trauma. Of the 300 applications made, 38 cases were rected and 131 are still being sidered, a spokesman said.

Mrs Stewart, a mother of two, has not worked since the March 1996 shootings in which 16 children and their teacher, Gwen Mayor, died.

Mrs Stewart, one of five members of staff who went on sick leave after the massacre. arrived in the gym minutes after the shooting and tended the wounded and dying children until ambulances arrived. As a former teacher of the Primary One class, she was asked by police to help to identify bodies of the victims. Speaking to a newspaper yesterday, she said that she sufTeacher is given compensation,

but bereaved families are still

waiting, reports Shirley English

fered flashbacks and nightmares and rarely got to sleep before 3am. She could not light a match because the smell reminded her of gunsmoke and was tormented by feelings of guilt that she could have done more to help.

"I will never be able to work again. Teaching was my dream job. My life has been ruined and all I want to do is turn back the clock. No amount of compensation would help to put things

right," Mrs Stewart said.
"It's a dreadful thing to say. but I'm now terrified of children. We were very close to the little ones."

Yesterday the people of Dun-blane were reluctant to talk about compensation, but there was an underlying sense of bitterness that Mrs Stewart's comments had put the town back in the spotlight. One per-

to the emergency services. Lisa Potts, the nursery nurse

dead and injured received awards from the £4.5 million Dunblane Fund and the £2 million Stirling Observer-Fund set up to deal with the flood of unsolicited donations that poured into the town from around the world.

teaching union, the Educational Institute of Scotland welcomed news of Mrs Stewart's

and calm here recently, and A bereaved father said that

he was still waiting to hear whether his family would get compensation. "I have nothing against the woman receiving compensation because of what she went through: I wouldn't wish that on anyone. But many families had to identify the dead bodies of their own children and have not received any compensation."

A number of teachers who helped in the gym in the aftermath of the tragedy went back to work immediately and struggled on regardless, one source said. "She was not the only person in the gym who had to do a traumatic job. A lot of people could all talk about what happened to them, but

they don't."
Edward McKeown, CICB operations manager, said: "A person who is permanently disabled by mental injury will get around £20,000. An appropriate amount will be added for loss of earnings and any care costs which are incurred. This could bring the total compen-sation up to half a million pounds.

After the Lockerbie disaster a number of payouts were made for psychological trauma to those who witnessed the aftermath of the tragedy. The bulk of the recipients belonged

injured while trying to protect children from a machete attack at St Luke's school in Wolverhampton, received £6,000 for her injuries. In Dunblane, families of the

Yesterday Scotland's largest



Suffering artist sees career take off

FOR Chris Burden, art is about tak-ing risks. In the cause of art, he has asked a friend to shoot him; be has given himself electric shocks and he has languished in a jammed lift for four days.

But when the American mounts the first British exhibition of his 30-year career, for once he will oot be in personal danger. Eyebrows, however, will still be raised.

The Tate Gallery in London is to ex-hibit a "factory" installation that will manufacture model planes from balsa wood, tissue paper and plastic and launch one every two minutes. Some 22,000 planes, with 12in wingspans. are expected to be launched into the Duveen Galleries. When they land, visitors can buy them for £5.

The artist hopes the public will discard crashed models across London. "Hopefully, they will fly them right away and create a lot of litter around the Tate. It will be a signpost for what's going on inside."

Burden says of the work, When Robots Rule: The Two-Minute Airplane Factory: "It's a functioning model of industrial capitalism. You: have the factory, the marketing of the

Man who had himself shot in the name of art plans to litter Tate Gallery with 22,000

model aircraft, reports Dalya Alberge

airplanes, the production of the airplanes. Are we overproducing, underproducing? Can we sell enough? Almost everything we handle or touch was made in a factory, yet we have no idea of how it happens. This is a visual factory, in the sense that you get to

see the method of production." The Tate describes the work, on show from March 2, as "entertaining, ingenious and provocative". Through toys, Burden is aiming to demystify

20th-century science. The artist, who was born in 1946 in Boston, made his name with performance art of a distinctly sadomasochistic nature. Io 1971 as a student at the University of California, be shut himself in a locker measuring 2ft by 3ft for five days, drinking water from a bottle in the locker above him and urinating into one below. Also that year he subjected himself to electric shocks in a work called Doorway to Heaven: he grasped live wires in each hand and pushed them into his chest. Next came Back to You, which involved having drawing-pins pushed into his body while sitting shirtless in a lift. In Deadman, he covered himself

with a tarpaulin and lay oo a Los Angeles motorway — only to be arrested for causing a false emergency to be reported. By 1974 he was lying on the back of a Volkswagen and having nails driven through his palms.

Burden denies he is a mere stuntman and some works have contained. overt political comment. In his installation The Reason for the Neutron Bomb, 1979, 50,000 coins, each with a matchstick glued to it, were meant to represent the number of tanks controlled by the Soviet Union.

But the critics know him best for the Shoot incident of 1973, in which be received a nasty bullet wound when he stood against a gallery wall

and was shot by a friend with a rifle. He still has a scar on his arm. While the public may have been ap-

palled, reviewers were impressed. One wrote: "Burden's early performances were essentially private acts. but they dealt with taboos that struck a vulnerable chord in the consciousness of witnesses and in the imaginations of people who have only heard verbal accounts of Burden's actions."
Another suggested that "actual experience - getting himself shot in the arm, for instance, is a primal answer

to the problem of metaphor in art". Yesterday Burden, who oow lives in Los Angeles, said of Shoot: "It was like a scientific experiment. I was trying to examine what it feels like to be shot. It's about controlling fate, trying to manage the unmanageable and the unthinkable. It's about turning towards the dragon, as opposed to turning your back on it." He added: "It was horrific to look at my arm and see a smoking hole."

Burden says his work has been inspired by artists such as Duchamp and Picasso and, in that sense, is "very traditional". With the aircraft factory. it has also become rather safer.

Champagne reopening for tin mine

Linda Stewart: "All I want to do is turn back the clock".

MINERS from around the world have been applying for jobs at a tin mine that reopened yesterday ten months after it closed with the loss of

300 jobs. The new owner of the 2000ft South Crofty pit near Redruth, Cornwall, said he had received job applications from as far afield as Brazil and South Africa. Wilf Hughes said response from miners wanting to work at the pit had been "absolutely amazing".

Mr Hughes, a Welsh min-ing entrepreneur, led a march of local people to the mine, where there was a champagne celebration for the revival of Europe's last tin pit. He bought the mine in a £625,000 deal with David Giddings. South Crofty's managing director and major shareholder.

Mark Kaczmarek, a former finer and union shop steward, said at the pit gates that it was an emotional day for Cornish people. However, before work can start, the flooded areas of the mine will have to be pumped out. Since being closed, the mine has flooded to a depth of 800ft and it is estimated that it will cost about £1 million to pump out.

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Travel the world next year — by racing yacht

By Elizabeth Judge

ADVENTURERS of all sorts were challenged by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston yesterday to compete next year in the world's longest ocean race.

Sir Robin, chairman of Clipper Ventures and race director of The Times Clipper 2000 round-the-world contest, is looking for crews for up to 12 yachts to take part in the 36,000-mile event. Speaking at the London International Boat Show, he confirmed that the race would start and finish in Portsmouth, leaving next Octo-

The yachts will cross the Atlantic three times and also cross the Pacific and Indian Oceans and race through the East and South China Seas, returning in August 2001. They will visit Cuba, Shanghai and the Galapagos Islands, and spend New Year's Eve heading for Hawaii.

Sir Robin said the 14-strong crews would be led by professional skippers. Applicants can join them for one or more of the six legs of the race.

DIRECT LINE

around the world is seen as one of the great things to do. There is a certain danger but that is what gives you a sense of achievement.

"What is going to be so excit-ing is that it will give people a chance to get behind their teams and their city as they compete against their rival." Towns and cities are being asked to sponsor a participat-

ing boat. They will pay £100,000 to put their names on the side of one of the 60ft clippers. It is hoped that each of the crew on the yacht will be from that town. The crew's families and friends will be able to follow their progress in The Times and on a website. Each leg will take between

£23.500, depending upon how

A FIVE-MONTH-OLD baby

was left with permanent brain damage after being deliberate-ly shaken by a childminder in

a "flash of anger", a court was

told yesterday.

Shirley Clemons caused the baby girl, who cannot be iden-

tified, a "devastating" brain in-

jury. Coventry Crown Court

Julia Macur, for the prosecu-

tion, alleged that Mrs Clem-

ons, 48, wanted to hurt the baby because she was crying

or being disruptive while in

The injured child - who

now suffers from a form of cer-

ebral palsy, epilepsy and has

impaired hearing and sight — was taken to hospital after

Miss Macur said: "Mrs

Clemons injured [the baby]

Mrs Clemons dialled 999.

her care last March.

Minder 'shook

child for crying'

five days and 31/2 weeks and the winner of The Times Trophy will be decided according to the accumulated points. Applicants, who must be He said that many people wanted something different to aged at least 18, will have to raise between £6,000 and do with their lives "and sailing

many legs they choose to com-pete in. About 500 people are being sought. The competitors, to be selected by Clipper Ventures, will

not have to be experienced sailors as everyone will be given rigorous training. The round-the-world race

takes place every two years; this is the first to be sponsored by The Times. The currrent Clipper 1998 race is nearing

the end of the second leg.

Colin de Mowbray, the project manager, said: This race is open to people from every walk of life. One competitor in the last race sold her horse and remortgaged her house so that she could take part." Representatives from towns

and cities considering sponsoring a vacht are at the boat show this week for briefings. Patrick Sheriff, marketing director of Times Newspapers. said that the race offered "a great promotional opportunity for the cities, but also a compelling sporting platform from which to take on their rivals". ☐ For information on The Times Clipper 2000, telephone 01234 711550 or see the website http://www.clipper-ventures.

most probably in a flash of an-

ger, but nevertheless intended

to do her really serious bodily

harm." She added that the

baby would "never be a nor-

The jury was told that Mrs Clemons, described as a wom-

an of good character with

many years' experience as a childminder, claimed that she

shook the child to resuscitate

her after she stopped breath-

a momentary lapse; this was rage, and in that rage Mrs Clemons's qualifications as a

good and careful childminder

Mrs Clemons, of Coventry, denies causing grievous bodily

harm with intent and a charge

of child cruelty. The trial con-

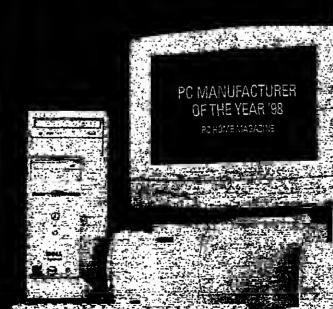
went out of the window."

Miss Macur said: "This was

mal child".

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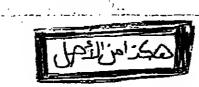
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The Chancellor doth protest too much, methinks

back to Gordon Brown. His Edinburgh speech was the most coherent statement of what Downing Street is eager not to call a relaunch. despite this week's reheating of several familiar initiatives and the desperate attempt to address public worries about the NHS. The speech was intriguing both for what Mr Brown said, and what he did not

Reflecting the current febrile mood, Mr Brown felt it necessary to pay an extravagant tribute to Tony Blair in terms that would not have shamed Stalin's Politburo - his "historic achievement", his "leadership", "measure of Tony Blair's suc-

n the end, everything that mat-ters in this Government comes cellor protests too much. Mr Blair and he agree on most policies, far more than John Major did with either Norman Lamont or Kenneth Clarke. The problem has been rather mood music, and the jarrying notes of some acolytes.

Mr Brown remains the unrivalled ideologist of new Labour, even if his rhetorie sometimes runs away with itself in elaborate contrasts. His theme was the changed role of government, as expander of individual opportunity. In particular, he foreshadowed new initiatives in his spring Budget on com-petition policy to tackle restrictive practices and opening up industries to new entrants, on making the tax

system work better to encourage research and development, science and innovation and entrepreneurship; on tackling the employment needs of men aged over 55 and on expanding lifelong educa-

All this is, of course, micro-economic. Having made the Bank of England responsible for set- RIDDELL ting interest rates and set a fiscal framework for the ON POLITICS next three years, Mr Brown believes that his role is now

primarily to improve the structure of the economy, the supply side.

Strangely for the first speech of the year by a Chancellor of the Exchequer, he did not mention the

not discuss whether he now thinks the downturn this year is likely to be deeper, and the recovery next year slower, than he forecast in ear-

ly November. The latter is crucial to the sustainability of his public spending plans. Mr Brown also maintained his curious silence on the euro. For someone

who sees no objection in principle to sterling's entry, he has been oddly reticent so far this year on the launch of the euro. It was a mistake that no British minister attended the official launch on nation that no "substantive issues affecting Britain" were being discussed was uncomfortably reminiscent of the damagingly dismissive Whitehall attitude of the 1950s towards early European integration. Mr Brown needs to step up public contacts with other European finance ministers if he wants to smooth the path towards British

participation in monetary union in

two or three years.

is political aim yesterday was to answer criticisms that new Labour has nothing to do with principle, "that poli-tics is a matter only of personalities rather than policies, that style can

what separates parties is far less than what unites them".

This week's announcements and speeches should knock on the head the idea that new Labour is just presentational froth. But such activity does not answer the question of whether this model of government activism and central regulation will produce improved public services without having higher taxes. The Blair Government is not about to come apart. The Tories will get nowhere suggesting it is and they should narrow the focus of their at-

tacks. Far more important is whether the Government can deliver on the demanding goals that Mr Brown

Secret talks may produce new laws on polls

By JAMES LANDALE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW rules governing the way referendams are held could be come law this year after search talks between the Tories and the Government.

Tory MPs will today mived plans to use a Private Member's Bill to introduce a basic code of conduct for future polls. The Referenders Bill will be brought forward by Andrew Robathan, Tory ViP for Blaby, who came fourth in the ballot of MPs seeking trintro-duce their own legislation this

session.
Oliver Letwin, a Tory constitutional spokesman, has been holding talks with George Howarth, the jurior Home Office Minister, to seek cross-party agreement on the way forward. The Tories claim have secured broad agreement on several key issues, including that the two opposing sides in a referendum have equal access to public finds and to television airtime. Discussions are also continuing about how rules could be drawn up to prevent referendum questions being loaded. No consensus has been

reached on whether there should be a cap on spending.

Home Office sources said that although the Government was happy to help and provide advice, no formal agreement had yet been reached on the text of any Bill. They anded that the Government was planning to publish its own draft Bill this summer to implement the recommendations about referendums made by the Neill Committee on Standards

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in Public Life. "We are not keen on a pieremeal approach towards the issue," one official said. "We are happy to help out but are likely to take a neutral position towards any Bill the Tories 'might introduce."

Brown rallies to Blair's side

Fightback begins with fulsome praise of party leader, write Jill Sherman and Jason Allardyce

day mounted a strong defence of new Labour and heaped praise on Tony Blair in a bid to reassure the public that there was no rift between

The Chancellor, in his first public comments since the resignations of Peter Mandelson. Geoffrey Robinson and Charlie Whelan, his press aide, made clear that he fully supported the Prime Minister's goal to modernise and trans-

form the party.
"As Tony Blair recognised only a transformed party willing to think anew can transform the country for a new era," he said. "His historic achievement is to harness enduring British values, Labour values, to the challenges of the new economy and by breaking with past programmes, develop a new direction of the commg decade — an economy that is strong and a society that is

The Chancellor, who is said to have been desolate over Mr Whelan's departure, went out of his way to endorse new Labour as he led a Cabinet fightback to get the Government

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Mr Wheian was absent from the the business breakfast in Scotland addressed by Mr Brown and was believed to be working at the Treasury office in London. Mr Brown was accompanied only by Sue Nye, his personal assistant, and his speech was written in part by Douglas Alexander, his advis-

er and MP for Paisley. Mr Brown scotched reports that he was forging a closer alliance with John Prescott. the Deputy Prime Minister, by making clear that he did not support greater intervendon

in industry.

He underlined that the new Labour label had sometimes been misinterpreted by the party and the public to be more about style than substance. In what was seen as a slight dig at those who are too enthusiasoc about cosying up to the Liberal Democrats, he also hinted that there were big policy dif-ferences between them.

"All of us in new Labour reject the view that politics has nothing to do with principle; that ideas are less important than unprincipled pragmatism, that politics is a matter only of personalities rather than policies, that style can substitute for substance, and that what separates parties is far less that what unites

He announced that the New Deal would be extended to the over-50s and signalled that there would be tax measures in the Budget to help research and development and small

businesses. He said: "Around one third of men between 50 and 65 have no jobs; many have been



Gordon Brown addressing the meeting in Edinburgh yesterday; he said new Labour had been misinterpreted to be more about style than substance

denied chances to get jobs after being made redundant. For the over-55s it is 40 per cent so it is time to give special attention to their employment needs and the next Budget will." Already the New Deal is helping 180,000 young people and is being extended this year

unemployed and disabled.

practices and open up-competi-don-to-new entrants and this

to help more of the long-term He also indicated that the Budget would include plans for greater competition and new enterprise. "In particular we need to tackle restrictive

we will continue to do." It would also include measures to encourage innovation and science to ensure that technological and commercial opportunities could be taken.

Michael Gove, page 16 Leading article, page 17

EU farm reform will cut food bills

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY GRICULTURE CORRESPONDE

THE reform of European Union farm subsidies would cuannual household food bill by £18 a person, it was claimed yesterday. Nic Brown, the Agriculture Minis ter, told a government-con vened conference in Londo that the reforms, due to b adooted in late March, woul also he good for taxpayer and farmers.

"The present structures ach ally build in the creation of surpluses for some products, he told the food and farmin industries, consumer group and environmentalists. N Brown said he would be send ing a questionnaire to farmer views on the propos als and the Government's re sponse. "I want everyone in volved in the industry to hav their chance to con the way in which the commo agricultural policy reform should be implemented in

this country," be said. At present, British farmer receive about £3 billion in EU subsidies a year. The ministr estimates that this costs about E3 per person per week in higher food prices and £1 pe person per week in extra tax The proposed reform would cut guaranteed price for beef, cereals and milk by up to 30 per cent.Farmer would be partly compensated by an increase in cash pay ments linked to farm size



Brown: said farmers will be asked for their views

Change to Interest Rates. With effect from the start of business on 12th January 1999 the following Business Creave, Deposit and Lending rates are applicable to the accounts set out below.

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The Pope reads his "state of the world" address

Pope condemns airstrikes as solving nothing

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TWO weeks before he is due. Clinton. Yesterday. he apto meet an embattled President Clinton, the Pope yes-terday rebuked the United States and Britain for their bombing raids on Iraq last month, saying the attacks had solved nothing. If anything, they had made mat-

Giving his annual "state of the world" address to diplomats, the Pope said that war "does not solve problems, it only complicates them, and leaves the civilian population to bear the tragic.

He did not single out the he said: "International law. cannot be the law of the strongest, or of a simple majority of states, or even of an ... It must be a law which

natural and moral law, which are always binding on parties in conflict and the various issues in dispute."
The Pope, 78, sets off for Mexico on January 22 and is scheduled to make a stop-over in St Louis, Missouri,

peared preoccupied with ten-sions in the Middle East -"a region in which our reli-

gious traditions are rooted". The Pope deplored the hia-tus in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, noting that "it is not possible to keep people indefinitely between war and peace without the ing tension and violence".

He said it would be unwise to delay tackling the status of Jerusalem any fur-ther Only bonest dialogue. a real concern for the wel-He did not single out the fare of people and respect US or Britain by name. But for the international order could bring lasting solutions to a region where Islam, Judaism and Christianity all. had their roots.

In a wide-ranging speech in French be called for peace in the Balkans, urging the Serbs and ethnic Albanians conforms to the principles of of Kosovo to "meet round a table to defuse without delay the armed suspicion which paralyses and kills". He expressed concern about insta-bility in Africa, noting that 17 of its 53 nation states were

US jets fire on Iraqi missiles

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

AMERICAN warplanes fired terday in two attacks as tension escalated with a defiant

Baghdad. in one incident, two US FISE strike aircraft attacked a near Mosul in another, an F16 fighter fired a High Speed Anti-Radiation (Harm) mis-sile. Both incidents apparently occurred after the aircraft were illuminated by Iraqi radar during routine patrols of the northern no-fly 20ne.

After days of menacing in-vective from Baghdad, Kuwait has placed part of its military on full alert. Iraq has accused the emirate, along with Saudi Arabia, of betrayal for allow-ing British and US airstrikes from their territory and demanded compensation.
The Kuwaiti decision was

announced after an emergen-cy meeting of the Defence Council, which also discussed plans to call up reservists. The move was seen as symbolic, given Kuwait's reliance on US muscle for its protection. "Kuwait is a small country and we cannot take any risks," an army spokesman said.

It was reported by a Kuwaiti newspaper that 25 "Arabs" had been arrested carrying anti-government leaflets calling for a revolution. They confessed to plotting against Kuwait for Iraq, the paper said. The US planes returned safe-

ly to their base in Turkey. The Pentagon said it had no imme-diate information on the damage to the Iraqi sites.
US officials reported that Iraq had moved new air defence units into the no-fly zones and Washington had

doubled to 16 the number of planes on patrol. They said that American and British planes would continue to monitor the no-fly zones despite traci opposition to the patrols.

"The coalition will continue to enforce the no-fly zones vigorously. These provocations are a reminder of the threat that Saddam poses to the region and the need for vigilance in containing that threat," a Na-tional Security Council spokes-

man said. The attacks were the latest in a series of clashes in the nofly zones over northern and southern traq. Last Thursday. an Fl6 fired at another missile battery, and two days earlier four US jets shot at, but missed, Iraqi planes that had breached the flight ban.

Iraq's defiance forms part of a broader challenge to the US and Britain — and their Arab: Saddam is

raising the stakes to keep Iraq on the international agenda?

allies - since the two powers launched Operation Desert Fox last month.

Security at Western embassies and American military facilities in Kuwait has been intensified, while Washington said it would act militarily if Iraq retaliated against Kuwait or Saudi Arabia for last month's raids,

However, Iraq's capacity to pose a military threat to Kuwait is questionable, given its inability to provide air cover and the Anglo-American firepower arrayed against its troops. "He's raising the stakes to keep Iraq on the international agenda," said an Arab envoy in the Gulf, refer-

ring to President Saddam Hussein. Threatening Kuwait does that, but it also unites countries against him."

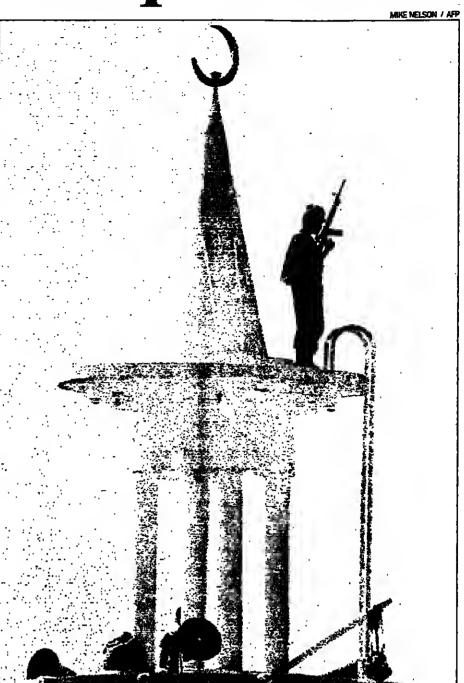
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While Operation Desert Fox appears only to have emboldened the Iraqi leader, his ac-tions can also be viewed as a sign of frustration as he attempts to demonstrate his ability to continue to seize the initiative. Washington said he had lost key military aides in the airstrikes, and there have been reports of purges and executions of suspect officers. Defections have also continued on an almost daily basis. "Something happened in southern lraq during Desert Fox. Whether it was an attempted coup or not is not yet clear," an Iraqi source said.

Saddam appears to believe that threats against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will persuade them not to allow America and Britain to use bases on their territory for future airstrikes, which many in Baghdad believe could come when the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends later this month.

However, any perceived backfire on Saddam by alienating France, Russia and China, its sympathisers on the United Nations Security Council. Washington could also use it to reinforce the no-fly zone in southern Iraq with a no-drive zone. Iraqi opposition groups have long called for a ban on Saddam's tanks in the restive. Shia-dominated south.

Saudi Arabia, which called on Sunday for Saddam's overthrow, unveiled an initiative to relax the crippling UN embargo on Iraq by allowing the imports of everything but military equipment and material. The offer, to be discussed by minister from the Gulf Co-operation Council later this month, was dismissed by Iraq



A soldier stands guard on a mosque minaret in Kuwait City after the military alert

Kibbutz row rocks 'Jesus boat' plan for Vatican display

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PLANS to move a famous relic known as the "Jesus boat" from the Sea of Galilee in Israel to the Vatican for a millennium exhibition has sparked a fierce row among Israelis.

Members of the kibbutz where the 2.000-year-old vessel - missing its bow, stern and sides - was discov-

claimed that the move would wreck the artefact and the collective farm's lucrative tourism business.

Israel's Education Ministry and a senior member of the Knesset joined the growing chorus of protests, demanding that the Antiquities Authority, which has been negotiating the exhibition with the Vatican for the past three years, scrap its plans.

sion," said Avi Yehezkel, chairman of the Knesset sub-committee on tourism. "It will hurt tourism to Israel

and it will damage the boat itself."

Experts believe that the boat was probably used during the Roman period to ferry supplies along the in-land Sea of Galilee, where the Scriptures say that Jesus walked on the water. Only a shell, about 13 ft long and 612 ft wide remains of the boat, which

never directly linked to Jesus. Archaeologists believe that the design is the same as boats used in the Mediterraneanaround the time of the New Tes-

Defending the decision to move the boat, Amir Drori, head of the Antiquities Authority, maintained that an international group of restoration ex-perts had determined that no real

harm would come to the vessel.

Holy Land in time for an expected summer influx of millennium pil-grims. "Until now, no more than 70,000 pilgrims a year have come to see the boat," he argued. If it was ex-hibited for three months in the hall where the Pope receives pilgrims, it could be seen by millions. "Afterwards every pilgrim who comes to Israel will see the permanent exhibition from April 2000 until the end of



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Guardians of the lost Ark keep the faith

fans of Steven Spicioerg's Raiders of the Lost Ark might tell you, people have been searching for the lost Ark of the Covenant.

In Ethiopia, however, the search for the legendary chest containing the Ten Commandments never began. For the Ethiopians believe that the Holy Ark has been been with them all along, or at least since it was removed from Jerusalem hundreds of years before the birth of Christ.

in mid-January the faithful of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church will gather for their most important festival, Tim-kat, which commemorates the baptism of Christ. Nowhere will the festival be celebrated with greater ceremony than in Axum, the oldest and most sacred of Ethiopian towns. It is here that Ethiopians believe the Ark is held.

On the eve of Timkat and on Timkat itself, January 19, the Ark will be displayed to the faithful of Axum. Of course, it will not be the real Ark, which is considered too powerful for humans to behold. Ethiopia's most treasured relic never leaves the chapel where it is guarded night and day.

Instead, a tabot or symbolic representation will be used. Here in Axum, and all over Ethiopia, tabots wrapped in brocade will be paraded amid great rejoicing, singing and

David Orr in ancient Axum

> investigates a biblical conundrum

the stone tablets on which God inscribed the law were placed in the Ark by Moses. Its power helped the Israelities to defeat their enemies and they carried it with them to the Promised Land. The Ark was installed in a temple in Jerusalem by King Solomon. Then it suddenly disappeared.

No one knows why but after the time of Solomon (970-931 BC), the Ark is almost never mentioned in the Old Testament. The Ethiopians claim to have the answer to the riddle.

The venerated relic is kept in a chapel beside the church of St Mary of Zion. I was taken there by Deacon Fiseha Asfaw whotold me the story of the Ark. This accorded with the main points of the legend as I had heard it but also varied from it in parts. As he was telling it, my guide from the National Tourist Office more than once whispered: 'That bit is not true."

A thousand years before the birth of Christ - so ran the deacon's account - the Queen

to show him the Ark. From his nose the patriarch discharged blood," said the deacon. "He came a second time and again he tried to persuade the guardian to show him the Ark. The guardian hesitated and he, too, was punished by the angels. Blood came from his nose. He was sick and he died some months afterwards. After suffering many years, the patriarch also

pia to Jerusalem where she conceived a child by King Solo-mon. That child was Menelik

and as a young man he, too, travelled from Ethiopia to Jeru-salem. He stayed there for some years with his father.

When he left, he took with him

the Ark of the Covenant. Solo-

mon apparently accepted that its removal had been sanc-

The Ark was brought to Ethi-

opia, said the deacon, and be-

fore the birth of Christ in-

stalled in a temple near Axum.

During the reign of the late Emperor Haile Selassie it was

placed in the new chapel be-

fore which the deacon and I

Inside, a door, draped with

a cloth, is flanked by two tall

windows with turquoise frames. The edifice is sur-

mounted by a turquoise dome. Inside a priest stands guard in-

side a fence.
Aba Teklemariam has

been looking after the Ark for

nearly four years and he is the

only one allowed to see it," the deacon said. "The former guardian was rebuked by the

Ark because God was dis-

pleased with him. Many times

asked what had happened

The deacon said he had him-

self witnessed the Ark's power.

One of the previous guardi-

ans, he said, had been urged

by a former patriarch of the

Ethiopian Orthodox Church

but he would not tell me."

noned by God.

now stood.

I asked Aba Gabregiorgis, guardian of the church's treasury, if he was worried about a border dispute with Eritrea again erupting into war. "We have the power of the Ark on our side and God will protect the Ark and Ethiopia," he



Bligh and his crew of loval seamen being cast adrift from the Bounty by Fletcher Christian and the mutineers

Cannon of Bligh's mutineers is raised from wreck of Bounty

NET LINKS

www.library.puc.edu/pitcairn/ -- the Pitcairn Islands Study Centre

Australians uncover another secret from an enduring seafaring saga, writes Roger Maynard in Sydney

AN AUSTRALIAN team of marine archaeologists was yesterday celebrating the retrieval of one of the cannon from the wreck of HMS Bounty, at its final resting place off Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific.

The expedition, from James Cook University in Townsville, was assisted by residents of the island in building an intricate air-powered lifting device to raise the

They used the machine to extricate the L,764lb cannon from 200 years of marine growth, Nigel Erskine, the team leader, announced from the smallest remaining British overseas territory. He said the operation was achieved under complex and demanding sea conditions in Pitcaim's Bounty Bay. The expedition, which began in Sep-tember, was designed to shed fresh light on one of history's most enduring seafaring sagas. The wreck of HMS Bounty, which carried Fletcher Christian and his muti-neers to Pitcairn in 1789 so that they could avoid being recaptured by the British, has been slowly croded by the Pacific surf, but part of the timber and many of the vessel's artefects lie buried in sand.

One of the mutineers, apparently terrified that the Royal Navy would find them, set fire to the Bounty, allowing the crew to stay undetected on



is well-documented, but may

well have been against Christian's orders. The Australian researchers are hoping to find evidence of personal possessions on the wreck, which would suggest that the blaze was quick and surprised the rest of the crew. So far the

of John Adams, who was found by a whaling vessel in 1808. He kept no written records and gave differing ac-counts of his time there to

team has retrieved rigging, hull timbers, cannon balls

The Australians have also

excavated the original house

visiting sailors.
Christian and the seven men who led the mutiny against Captain William Bligh had sailed the Bounty from Tahifi to escape British Admiralty justice.

Apart from Adams, they all died within a few years. Polynesians' murdered five of them. The British Admiralty sent the HMS Pandora to capfure the mutineers but Christian and his band hiding on Pitcairn were never found by the Pandora's crew.

Mr Erskine, a postgradu-ale student at James Cook University, is keen to know how such a motley crew of subversives mixed with Polynesians and created such an extraordinary society.

Russians lured by promise of US servitude

Make or

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

DISENCHANTED with the worsening economic situation in Russia, many of the counrry's newly unemployed are fleeing to America to work as servants for rich expatriate

Lured by newspaper advertisements promising well-paid work abroad, hundreds of highly qualified people have parted with the helpy fee demanded by the illegal agencies and have accepted jobs as bousekeepers, nannies and gardeners thousands of miles from home.

. Wealthy Russians who have established themselves in Amestablished themselves in America are notoriously loath to employ the Filipino staff favoured by their US counted parts, according to Segodnyanewspaper. They are also keen for their children to be cared for by Russian speakers. Although the agencies take a £70 oining fee and the first four weeks' wages, the work, at around £150 a week plus bed and board, is far more higrative than anything available at home, where the average wage is less than ESO a month. "I have two children and my husband can't find work. says Olga Tarasov, who has just signed up with an agency that she hopes will find her domestic work not too far from New York. "My cousin is a namy for a Russian family in New York and the agency of the property of th New York and the agend promised me I wouldn't have

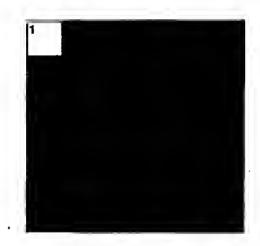
Segodnya cited the case of woman identified only as Irina who earned thousands of dollars working as a housekeeper for a Russian-Ameri can family and returned to Russia to start her own emphoyment agency. The newspa-per described Irina's light workload and heavy pay pack-et with awe. It said the family she served always are readymade food that needed only to be heated up and that they owned so many hi-tech domes tic appliances that Irina barely bad to exert herself at all.

problems getting a visa if i was leaving my children be-



Worshippers carrying the Ark of the Covenant in this illustration by Jean Fouquet (circa 1425-80)

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China rights talks doomed, dissident says

Beijing: A pioneer of China's democracy struggle said yesterday he saw little hope of progress in Chinese-American talks on human rights because for the Beijing leadership, 1999 was "a special year" in terms of political symbolism (James Pringle writes). The talks resumed in Washington yesterday in a gloomy mood after a five-year hiatus and in the middle of a political

crackdown in China. "It's the tenth anniversary of Tiananmen suppression, the twentieth anniversary of Democracy Wall and the liftieth anniversary of the Communists coming to power," said Ren Wanding, 53, a veteran dissident who is also connected to the formation of a new democratic party that Beijing views as a challenge to the Commu-

nist Party's monopoly on power.

Mr Ren said that the Chinese economy was depressed and millions of workers were being laid off. "The more difficult the

economic situation is, the more harshly they will treat dissidents."

China broke off the talks in mid-1994, after American human rights officials met the dissident, Wei Jingsheng, during a visit to Beijing. Mr Wei is now an exile in

bu ame.

版建一...

Air force curs in

Russia attacked

President Jiang Zemin agreed to resume the dialogue during his summit with President Clinton last year, but has now pledged to nip dissent in the bud.



Myles Tierney, 34, an AP television cameraman killed on Sunday by rebels in Freetown, with locals last year

New assault on Freetown rebels

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FIERCE fighting flared up again in Freetown yesterday as Nigerian-led intervention forces launched a counterattack to drive rebels from the port and eastern part of Sierra Leone's capital.

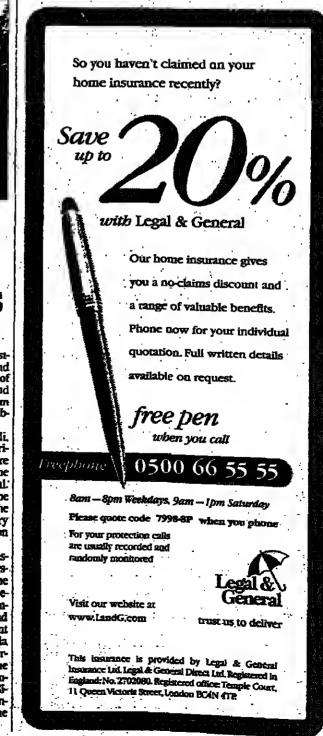
The foreign ministers of Togo and the Ivory Coast ar-rived to begin intensive efforts to secure a ceasefire. Arriving at Lungi airport, they were ex-pected to meet President Kabbah, who has taken shelter at the airport, and Foday Sankoh, the rebel leader who was sentenced to death for treason last October.

With food running short and water and electricity cut off, residents in the battle zone cowered in their homes, fearful of the marauding rebels who seized a number of civilian hostages to use as human shields after looting and burning their houses.

Reporters and troops report-ed many bodies still lying in the streets. The Ecomog pro-government troops, reinforced by about 500 Nigerians at the eru part of Freetown and cleared rebels from the seat of government. Helicopters and fighter jets flew sorties from the airport, strafing and bomb-ing rebel strongholds.

General Timothy Shelpidi, commanding the West African forces, said his men were pushing southeast towards the eastern suburbs of the capital. He said the rebels would be driven from the capital in the next few days. "We are very confident about the situation in Frectown." The fighting has raised ques-

tions in Nigeria, where newspapers have called for the troops' return. But the Defence Ministry said it was committed to the operation and would not abandon President Kabbah. Yesterday Nigeria held a meeting of regional foreign ministers to discuss the fighting, which some commentators said could leave Sierra Leone without a government and racked by the same anarchy that grips Somalia.



THE TIMES TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Make or break for democracy as MEPs challenge Commission

ه کذار من الاصل

centing blood, many MEPs see this week's clash between the European Commission and Parliament as a coming-of-age for the EU's only directly-elected institution. But a bungled outcome could delay the assembly's drive for legitimacy.

What we are seeing is the emer-gence of real parliamentary democ-racy at the European level," said Pavid Martin, a Labour MEP and one of the assembly's vice presidents, as MEPs prepared to cast their verdict on the fate of Jacques Santer, President of the Commis-

sion, and his 19 Commissioners. However, for the 626-member assembly, often maligned as the mother in law of parliaments, the duel with the executive risks

Parliament's censure vote may backfire,

writes Charles Bremner in Brussels

offer a coherent input to the EU's "government". This could rebound on sitting MEPs in June's Europewide elections and undermine the assembly's effort to expand its powers and narrow the EU's "democratic deficir".

We have a bad record for messing things up and there's a danger that we will make fools of our selves by the end of the week," said a French Socialist MEP.

Since 1991, when the Maastricht widened the Parliament's

gilding its image as an undisci- limited powers the Euro-assembly plined talking shop that fails to has marched its troops up the hill several times to face the Commis sion and governments, only to shuf-fle away from battle. Its onslaught two years ago against the Commission over its handling of Britain's

BSE crisis came to nothing. Thursday's censure vote over Commission mismanagement, although far more serious, has the in-gredients for collapse through party infighting and national interest. The fight over the Commission has battle-lines that cut across the two main political blocs. The domi-

nant Socialist group, led by Pauline Green, a Labour MEP, is supposed to back the Commission, but many of its large German contingent are threatening to rebel.

The centre-right European People's Party, the other large group, which includes the Tories, is also in disarray. Wilfried Martens, its Belgian leader, opposes the "nuclear" option of censure, which would oust the whole Commission.

Christian Democrats, with an eye to the forthcoming elections, are on the warpath against the Commis-sion. The British Conservatives are flinching from censure but have backed an alternative scheme. launched by the Liberals, to try to pick off individual Commiss

However, many of the German

by calling separate votes of no-con-fidence. The smaller Green bloc and the handful of right-wing anti-Maastricht MEPs, want all-out censure. The likely outcome will be a deal in which the two main blocs hold their fire in return for concessions from Mr Santer to open the Commission to closer parliamenta-

n obstacle to the Parliament's emergence as a real force is the failure of EU governments to fix its location. The heavy travel burden of MEPs is compounded by the bizarre practice in which their whole institution shuttles once a month between Brussels and Strasbourg, 400 miles apart. The Parliament has

pute by failing to curb its own shady habits, notably its taste for lavish, unaccounted expenses.

The move against the Commission was driven by disgust with its failure to curb maipractice and had management. The Parliament surprised itself in December by mustering a majority behind a move to reject the Commission's EU accounts for 1996.

Seeking to clear the air and help the Commission, Mrs Green resorted to a dangerous ploy by calling for a censure vote and daring the critics to vote for it. She underestimated the depth of MEPs' anger.

She had effectively handed a weapon to the hardline anti-Santer forces and now finds herself the architect of the Commission's possible downfall. This has not improved her standing with Tony Blair and other centre-left prime ministers, who are appalled at the risk of paralysis in the EU's machinery at a crucial time for decisions on spending reform.

Many MEPs say the clumsy pro cedures this week show the need to give the Parliament more precise weapons to discipline the Commission than the existing blunderbuss of censure. Its powers in this field are already to be extended under the Treaty of Amsterdam, which takes effect this spring. The Parliament will then have the right to veto the member states' choice of the Commission President to succeed Mr Santer next January.



law aimed at educational reform. In a two-month uprising, students have occupied 400 state schools, although some of those reopened when term started last Friday

French purists opt for zone

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AFTER much wordy debate the Académie Française has ruled that the countries pledged to a single currency should be called neither the English-sounding "curoland" nor the pseudo-French "euro-lande" but rather the "euro zone", which could be either.

The unexpected compromise by the body in charge of defending and defining the French language follows bitter controversy over the spread of the word euroland, which some purists claimed was yet more evidence that French is being steadily colonised by English terms.

The Académie advises against the use of euroland because it is not the name of a sovereign state or even a confederation, but simply the area of application of a treathe Académiciens dedared. "If the United States is not dollarland and Britain is not sterlingland, why should the II nations be euroland?"

"Eurolande" was supported by some finguists as a French alternative, but rejected by others who pointed out that the word "lande" is usually used

pointed out that "curo zone" was already used by the Bank of France and government of-fices, yet they still face the traditional problem with defending the French tongue: almost nobody uses "curo zone" while the vast majority are as familiar with "euroland" as they are with "Disneyland".

John Laughland, page 16

Schröder endorses the euro beleaguered Santer

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, yesterday threw the weight of the Ger presidency behind Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, who is fending off criticism that some of his Commissioners are corrupt and incompetent.

Europe needed a strong Commission at this moment, he said, if it was to reform its finances and open up to candidates from the East. "We talked about how differ-

ent European institutions could be involved in an anticorruption controlling group," the Chancellor said after meeting Mr Santer and the other Commissioners in Bonn. Mr Santer said he had already drawn up plans for an intra-institutional working group and added that "we could expand

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these ideas to include Herr Schröder's proposals". Whether this concession to the European Parliament will be enough to overcome Thursday's no-confidence vote on the Commission remains to be gether," he said. Mr Santer, he said, was not seen. In Bonn for the routine meeting to mark the start of the six-month presidency, the

about to walk the plank. We have become the victims of our own openness." Mr Santer claimed. It was the Commission itself, he said, which had uncovered the con-

20 Commissioners posed for

photographers as if they were

troversial cases. Herr Schröder made plain that the German Government wanted the Commission to stay in place. "My respect for parliamentarians is such that I will not pub-

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lich advise them how to vote. But to achieve the ambitious goals of the six-month German presidency we need the Commission, the presidency and the parliament to work to-

about to vacate his seat and that was good because he needed a stable and active Commission enjoying the full confidence of the European Parliament if the Agenda 2000 package - reforming European finances and agriculture to prepare the Union for more members - was to be agreed on schedule at a special sum-

mit in March. For his part, Mr Santer said he was not championing either Helmut Kohl, the former German Chancellor, or Romano Prodi, the former Italian

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Prime Minister, to become his

"All cards, including the British rebate have to be placed on the table...the British rebate, at least in its current dimensions, is no longer

justified," said Mr Samer. Herr Schröder said that from his soundings of other European leaders, everyone seemed willing to give some ground to allow for the overhaul of European finances.

In an interview with Die Welt yesterday, Mr Santer said that the Amsterdam Treaty gave the President enhanced powers which might allow individual Commissioners - rather than the whole team — to seek votes of confidence from the European Parliament, avoiding a repeat of

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Immigrants take WORLD IN BRIEF Air force cuts in blame for crime wave in Milan

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

MASSIMO D'ALEMA, the Italian Prime Minister, will today hold an emergency meeting with top police officials in Milan amid fears that the country's normally civilised and businesslike economic and financial hub is descending into gangsterism of a kind more usually associated with

the South.
The alarm has been raised by nine street murders in as many days, several of them apparently involving Third World immigrants and East European matiosi from Albania and Croatia...

· The spiral of violence began on New Year's Day, when a Brazilian transvestite, his Italian client and a Sri Lankan bystander all died in a shootout. Soon afterwards armed robberies in shops and bars left a tobacconist and a newsagent

Police say there are about 70,000 immigrants in Milan, many of whom entered Italy illegally, and the influx has changed the landscape, with foreign criminals joining the Maña gangs from the South in exploiting a rise in drug run-

ning and prostitution.
Signor D'Alema, who came
to office last October, said the spate of violent crime in Italy's foremost northern city was very serious and that he would travel to Milan today with Rosa Russo Jervolino, the Inte-rior Minister, and Oliviero Diliberto, the Justice Minister. They would announce a "prop-er response" to ensure public order, Signor D'Alema said. Newspaper reports said the crackdown would involve the deployment of nearly a thousand extra police.

Italy's financial markets but

also the centre of much of its business world, including the fashion industry. Diego Masi. under-secretary at the Interior Ministry, said it was unacceptable that Milan was becoming

Tike Chicago in the 1930s.

Marco Vitale, a leading Milan businessman, said the city had become "southernised in the worst sense ... the minimum requirements of a decent life are increasingly difficult to obtain. Milan is drowning in garbage and graffit, over-whelmed by traffic problems and plagued by a backward administration. The only children one sees are those at traific lights begging for change."

Although witnesses to the murder of the tobacconist insisted his killers had spoken with southern Italian accents, the violence has fuelled antiimmigrant feeling, with demands for tougher measures to halt illegal immigration. A recent law provided for the expulsion of immigrants without proper papers but at the same time offered an amnesty to illegal immigrants who applied

for residence permits. Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, the liberal Archbishop of Milan, appealed to residents not to succumb to anti-immigrant hysteria. He said the rise in crime was part of a moral decline largely due to an increase in drug taking.

The authorities are also wornied by an apparent resur-gence of Mafra violence in the South after several years in which a crackdown had brought relative calm. Yesterday police in Sicily rounded up 20 matiosi said to be involved. in a gang which killed five peo--Milan is not only the hub of ple in a bar earlier this month.

Russia attacked Moscow: Russia's Air Force chief painted a woeful picture of his command, saying it had disbanded 580 units and dismissed about 30,000 officers, including 69 generals, in 1998. Colonel General Anatoli Kornukov said the force dismissed or retired about 124,000 servicemen, reducing its strength to

185,000. Thirty-two military airfields were closed. The military is starved of funds because of the Government's inability to collect taxes and provide revenue. All branches of the military suffer from serious shortages of everything from weapons to food and the combat capability of many units is questionable. General Kornukov said pilots averaged 21 flying hours in 1998, far below the level considered sufficient to maintain capability. (AP)

Nuclear cancer check

Sydney: New investigations have been ordered into Britain's syuncy: New investigations have ocen ordered into Britain's nuclear tests in Australia amid claims a rare cancer is killing servicemen who witnessed the blasts in the 1950s and 60s. The inquiries come after new research at Dundee University in Scotland showing that the incidence of bone marrow cancer, multiple myeloma, is ten times higher among test veterous. ans than in the general population. Up to 15,000 Australian and 22,000 British servicemen witnessed the explosions conducted at Maralinga on the Monte Bello islands. (AFP)

Ecevit forms Cabinet Ankara: Bulent Ecevit, 73, left, has



become Turkey's sixth Prime Minister in three years, leading a pro-secular Cabinet that promises to keep upthe fight against a powerful Islamic movement. Ending a six-week government crisis, the veteran politician yesterday put together a minority Government comprising his small Democratic Left Party and three independents, to the approval of President Demirel and the country's military. (AFP)

Road halts tribal war

Jakarta: Warring tribes in a remote forest region of Irian
Jaya have suspended hostilities so that they can watch a road
being built, the Jakarta Post reported. This is the first time for these people to see motorcycles and other reducies, an offi-cial was quoted as saying. The newspaper said some people had walked for four days through the forests of the wast eastmay warked an rowince to see helicopters bringing motorcy cles, lorries and construction equipment (Reuters)

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CHANGING TIMES

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Clinton trial set for operatic climax Albright dashes

Legal team argues for dismissal of impeachment articles, writes Bronwen Maddox in Washington

PRESIDENT Clinton's lawyers yesterday filed a stinging 13-page defence to the impeachment charges threatening his presidency, denying each and every material allegation against him".

The charges in the articles do not rise to the level of high crimes and misdemeamours as contemplated by the Founding Fathers, and they do not satisfy the rigorous constitutional standard applied through our nation's history," they argued, in a response de-livered just minutes before the

noon deadline. Mr Clinton's defence, his formai response to the Senate's summons for the first presiden-tial impeachment trial in 130 years, concluded with the blunt declaration that "the articles of impeachment should be dismissed. The document is signed by a small army of 11 lawyers, a symbol of the White House's determination to spare no resources in defend-

ing the President. There was speculation yes-terday that the whole Clinton legal team would walk up the steps of Capitol Hill later this week when the trial formally begins on the Senate floor, for t confrontation with the 13 nanagers of the House of Repesentatives, the prosecution.

The trial could bring an opratic climax to the year-long zwinsky saga, with the possiility that minor and major layers in the drama, from ionica Lewinsky to White louse secretary Betty Corrie, ill all assemble on the Senate age, surrounded by choruses lawyers and congressmen. But the White House and

enate moderates are still hopfor a curtailed trial in hich no witnesses are called nd the Senate votes early to ismiss the matter, perhaps inoking the compromise of anmal censure.

Slightly tempering the force f its response, the White louse vesterday seemed set to old back from filing a formal notion calling on the Senate to ismiss the charges immeditely. Leading Democrats on apitol Hill had said they vould be furious if Mr Clinton from senators to postpone it:

filed such a motion, as he would seem to be-thumbing his nose at the carefully-constructed Senate consensus.

The Senate spent the weekend in a nappy mood of selfcongratulation for having reached a cross-party pact on how to hold at least the early stages of the trial. That has proved tactical gold dust, leaving both the White House and the House of Representatives unsettled, suddenly deferential to the upper house.

The House managers were anxiously debating yesterday whether to file motions to shape the course of the trial by the deadline of 5pm. The White House will now wait until after the opening presentations to call for the case to be thrown out.

But as the first stage of the trial began, it became clear that open warfare between the parties may simply have been postponed for several weeks, until they decide whether to call witnesses. The House is adamant that the Senate must call six to 10 witnesses, including Ms Lewinsky.

"It is uncomfortable to listen to what happened in the Oval Office," said Representative Lindsey Graham, a member of the prosecution team. "But to give [Mr Clinton] the legal benefit because his conduct ... is uncomfortable is

the wrong message to send."
But Tom Daschle, leader of the Democratic minority in the Senate, is battling to avoid calling witnesses on the grounds that nothing new would be added to the volumes of documents.

Democratic Senator Tim Johnson from South Dakota said: "I feel more optimistic that we are not going to have another OJ trial - that we can avoid something that goes on and on." He said that the Senare might be able to dispense with witnesses altogether. Mr Clinton spent yesterday

meeting President Menem of Argentina to discuss drug trafficking and Iraq. He is determined to press ahead with his State of the Union address next week despite pressure



ه ي د المن الإمل

Hillary Clinton recalled less tumultuous days yesterday when she launched a commemorative dollar to honour Dolley Madison, wife of James Madison, the fourth President. Mrs Madison, pictured on the book held by Mrs Clinton, is the first First Lady to be immortalised in this way



Larry Flynt, publisher of the pornographic magazine Hustler, has yowed to expose adultery in high places

Porn king set to pounce

By Damian Whitworth in Washington

THE capital was in a state of anxiety last night as Larry Flynt, the pornographer, pre-pared to "out" a batch of adul-

terous members of Congress. For those who bave spent the past few weeks wondering if it was their indiscretions that were to be exposed, the wait was almost over. Mr Flynt, who publishes the maga-zine Hustler, had promised to expose a dozen politicians, all but one Republican, to demonstrate that those sitting in judg-ment on President Clinton were hypocrites.

According to his office six cases were ready to be publicised and the details of another six were being compiled.

Mr Flynt was planning to hold a press conference in Los Angeles last night. The por-nographer said he had been immedated with information about the infidelities of people in public life after he placed

newspaper advertisements last year offering a reward of up to \$1 million (£606,000) to those who could prove they had extramarital affairs with congressmen or senators or other high-profile politicians.

Rumours in Washington have encompassed every conceivable sleazy story, from the use of teenage Mexican prostitutes by one Republican to homosexual affairs and dalliances with conspicuously overpromoted secretaries.

Allan MacDooell, Editor of Hustler, said that six affairs were "signed, sealed and delivered with affidavits and corroborating evidence", and involved "people who go on TV and keep attacking Clintoo". He said most of the victims

had already suspected they were on the hit-list but one individual continued to bait Mr Clinton. "There's this one guy, I don't see bow he can keep posturing the way be is. I mean, he's got to know." Hustler whittled down

claims of 250 affairs to 30 that were checked by private inves-tigators. Mr MacDooell said no one had been paid \$1 million but Mr Flynt is expected to spend \$4 million in total.

Bob Livingston, the incoming Speaker of the House of Representatives, resigned last month over a report that he had a string of extramarital affairs. Mr Flynt denied that he was the source of this information, but admitted that his team had been investigating the Louisiana representative.

When be launched his campaign, Mr Flynt said he wanted to expose hypocrisy in its highest form. He was referring to those in the House and Senate who have been weighing the case against President Clinton. "People always lie about sex — to get sex, during sex, after sex, about sex. I totally disagree that perjury [in such a case] is perjury. Lying about your private life, even under oath, is totally different," be said.

dashes spy's hope of freedom

By DAMIAN WHITWORTH

JONATHAN POLLARD, the American jailed for life for spying for Israel, seemed unlikely to receive elemency last night after new details emerged about his espionage activities. It was also reported that Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, had recommended that he should not be

At the Middle East summit last year, President Clinton promised Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, that he would look into the case for leniency towards Pollard, a former US Navy analyst who was arrested in 1985 and jailed for providing secret documents to Israel.

But in a confidential recom mendation, Ms Albright told Mr Clinton there was no for-eign policy reason to release Pollard and no basis for overriding the views of the US intelligence community that he should remain in prison, ac-cording to senior officials quoted by the Associated Press.

Mr Clinton is expected to make a decision soon on the case, but Ms Albright's recommendation, combined with the vehement belief of George Tenet, director of the ClA, that Pollard should remain incarcerated, is likely to seal his fate.

An article by the investiga-tive journalist Seymour Hersh in yesterday's New Yorker magazine cites the views of intelligence officials who believe Pollard did more damage to national security than has previously been revealed.

Hersh says that documents which Pollard handed over to Israel included a directory of signals intercepted by the National Security agency, providing insights into American spying techniques. Intelligence officers have long believed that the documents ended up in the hands of the intelligence services of the then Soviet Union.

Some C1A sources believe 1srael used Pollard to obtain the US attack plan against the former Soviet Union. Some of the material was exchanged with Moscow for Jewish scientists, according to one Middle East CIA station chief.

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Rate per commo (A)	AER DQ	Reference	Rate per	多斯
4.50	4.59	Cord Plus Book account for 11-20 gear olds - / . Interest poid monthly	4.00	4.07
2.00	2.02	Student/Graduates Bank occount – increst pold worthly	1.75	1.76
		Savings		
Old Greats Rade per genture (10)	AR CO	Scionce	Nov Grass Rate per emana (X)	No.
6.25	6.40	TESSA Reserve Tox Free Sovings - No Minimum Bolonce	6.00	6.14
	' .	Crown Reserve 3 Month Notice - Interest pold quarterly		. ;
5.85	5.98	£250,000+	5.60	5.72
5.75	5.88	£100,000 - £249,999	5.50	5.61
5.45	5.56	£50,000 — £99,999	5.20	5_30
4.50	4.58	£25,000 - £49,999	4.25	4.32
4.00	4.06	£10,000 - £24,999 £2,000 - £9,999	3.75 3.20	3.80
3.45	3.49		3.20	
		Diamond Reserve		
5.55	- 5.69	£100,000÷	5.30	5.43
5.25	5.38	£50,000 - £99,999	5.00	5.12
4.50	4.59	£25.000 - £49,999	4.25	4.33
4.00	4.07	£10,000 - £24,999	3.75	3.82
3.45	3.51	£2,000 – £9,999	3.20	3.25
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3.45	3.49	£10,000 + £2,000 - £9,999	2.95	2:98
3.20	3.24		الحيد	2.30
		including all conditional rewords — Interest poid quarterly and anacolly ²		
5.70	5.76	£10,000 +	5.45	5.50
5.45	5.50	£2,000 - £9,999	5.20	5.24
		Premium Reserve		
		instant occess - interest pold quarterly		
4.05	4.11	£50,000 +	3.80	3.85
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3.35	3.39.			
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2.85	2.88	£1,000 +	2.60	2.63
2.60	2.63	£500 - £999°	2.35	2.37
1.50	1.51	£250 - £499	1.25	1.26
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Clothes fastener undoes bigfoot's fancy-dress act TALL, brown and hairy, she Close analysis

flees over a stream bed into dense forest, leaving only a set of giant footprints and a few seconds of scratchy 16mm film in the hands of two excited backwoodsmen.

The film, shot by Roger Pat-terson and Bob Gimlin in a remote corner of northern California in 1967, has served true believers ever since as sacred proof of the existence of the fabled bigfoot, in this case a lone female caught dawdling in the Six Rivers National Forest near the Oregon border. Two analysis now say it is a hoax.

Deconstructing the Patter-son-Girnlin film frame by frame with the help of colour photocopiers and computers, a Canadian bigfoot buff claims he has identified a man-made fastener at the creature's waist that reveals it not a feral descendant of Gigantopithecus but a human in a bulky suit. The fastener, roughly the

shape of a bottle opener, can be seen swinging against the creatures coat in four adjacent frames of the film. Chris Murphy of Vancouver claims after an exhaustive analysis that has put an entire sub-culture of bigfoot loyalists on the de-

"It was a hoax. How can an artificial, man-made object end up on a bigloot?" asked Cliff Crook, a fellow sceptic who has publicised Mr Murphy's findings. Both men have been branded traitors to a fondly-preserved myth with threatens a

cherished US myth, writes Giles Whittell

parallels in the Himalayan yeti legend and literary echoes as old as Jonathan Swift's "ya-

Unlike the yeti, however, its American cousin has stalwart backers in academia. "I fully accept the Patterson film," said Professor Grover Krantz, an anthropologist at Washington State University in Seattle who dismisses the Murphy analysis as amateur and irrele-vant. "If there was a fastener it could not be seen in an enlargement," he said. "The film grain is such that it cannot hold an image of something that small."

Tell-tale signs of bigfoot activity include flattened grass. twisted foliage and, above all, the stench of its musk, according to believers. Messrs Patterson and Gimlin confirmed all these on that October day in 1967, insists Ray Crowe, president of the Western Bigfoot Society. The image in their film "has a fluid motion; it's a wild creature of nature," he said at the weekend.

In fact it is blurred, jerky. and probably a prank.



The alleged bigfoot approaches a stream in a frame from the disputed 1967 Patterson-Giralin film



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We are living longer — but life can't be bought in a bottle

number of recent studies have found that vegetarians tend to A live longer, healthier lives than meat-eaters. What causes the difference is unknown. It might be that eating meat does something to shorten life, or that the vegetarian diet contains something good for longevity, such as tofu. The Japanese diet is high in vegetables and soya products, which some think is why the Japanese live three years longer, on average, than the Americans and British.

Fish is another ingredient in Japanese food that is good for longevity. Research has shown that fish oils may help to pro-

tert against heart disease and stroke.
But there is, as yet, little evidence for the efficacy of most nutritional supplements. Antioxidants are promoted nowadays as agents to help combat ageing. It makes some sense to suppose that, if you add antioxidants to your diet, you may stave off some of the ravages of free radicals. But compared with the potent antioxidants that your cells manufacture already, those you take on a spoon or in a tablet may make little difference — and it is as well to beware of tinkering with

what we do not yet fully understand.

That said, I do believe that some nutritional supplements are worth taking, so long as medical opinion confirms that

they are not toxic. Vitamin C is well toler-ated by the body in high doses, although above 4g a day it has been linked to kid-ney-stone formation and gout. It pro-vides a general antioxidant protection. Vi-tamin E supplementation also makes some sense because it quenches free-radi-cal chain reactions in membranes. The cal chain reactions in membranes. The

recommended allowance is 30mg daily. Yet even if nutritional supplements do you no good at all, there is still the placebo effect. This should not be underrated. The idea that the mind can influence the immune system was once rubbished by medical science - yet recent studies suggest that injections of testosterone once a week, or testosterone skin patches, can help older men to stay leaner, stronger. happier and more virile (although they may be at increased risk of atherosclerosis and prostate cancer). Add to this the effectiveness of Viagra as a treatment for impotence, and some of men's anxieties about getting older can be allayed.

Hormone replacement therapy for women has an even stronger biological rationale in view of the abrupt shutdown of ovarian hormones that occurs at the menopause. Millions of menopausal women now take oestrogen hormone re-placement therapy (HRT) to combat hot flushes and the other unwelcome side-



effects of "the change". There is strong suggestive evidence that HRT brings other benefits in the form of reduced postmenopausal bone loss, reduced risk of breast cancer and of cardiovascular disease, and even a degree of protection, against Alzheimer's disease. On the minus side, there is some suggestion that

it increases the risk of ovarian cancer. Three other hormones have received considerable attention over the past years for their possible effects on the ageing process: growth hormone; dehydro-

epiandrosterone (DHEA); and melatonin. The rationale for the claims made on behalf of each of these is that production of the hormone declines with age. Boosting its level back to something like the level in youth might, it is suggested, amelio-

rate or reverse some aspects of ageing. In the case of melatonin, neither the hypothesis nor the data are convincing. Melatonin's primary effect seems to be on the circadian rhythm — the biological cy-cle that keeps us working to a 24-hour clock. It is a weak antioxidant, but its con-

tribution to the body's overall antioxi-dant capacity is negligible. DHEA's role in ageing has also been

the subject of wildly exaggerated claims. This is a steroid hormone produced by the adrenal glands in both men and women. It plays a role, yet to be fully defined, in the production of other hormones, parncularly oestrogen and testosterone. Given that these play important roles in female and male biology, and that HRT has significant effects on ageing, it will not be at all surprising if DHEA supplementation also has biological effects in old age, some of which may be beneficial. But that does not make it the fountain of youth in a bottle.

Growth hormone is a potent stimulator of growth in children, and in later life it continues to be produced according to a 24-hour cycle, albeit at a declining level. But its effect on muscle mass has not been shown convincingly to translate into enhanced strength and endurance in older people. Serious concern has also been expressed about its side-effects.

The most worrying thing about the way in which some hormone therapies for ageing are touted and sold is that the claims pay such scant regard not only to the nature of the ageing process, but to what is known about how hormones

work. Hormones are potent biological agents, often with complex and multiple effects, and often released within the body on a tightly co-ordinated schedule not the sort of thing you would expect inspection of containing and contain

to work by swallowing a pill or two. to work by swanowing a put of two.

Anti-wrinkle creams generally work
by using chemistry to affect the appearance of the skin, mostly by plumping and
rehydrating dried-up cells. Aithough
manufacturers have dropped claims that such creams tackle the intrinsic ageing of

the skin, some packaging still carries a lot of scientific gobbledegook.

A new development is the range of skin creams containing retinoic acid. This will not tackle the underlying damage that has occurred through ageing of the skin cells, but it does appear to have some ef-

cells, but it does appear to have some erfect on the damage caused by sunlight.

If I have disheartened you by suggesting that the search for long life is a hopeless cause, let me assure you that nothing is farther from the truth. We are living longer, and there is encouraging evidence from the US that the period of disability before death is getting shorter. But you would be kidding yourself to think you would be kidding yourself to think that long life can be bought in a bottle.

● Time of Our Lives is published on January 28 by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20.

Birthing books and babies

Pregnancy sparks creativity, says Kate Muir, who delivered a novel and child within weeks of each other

nanny is sick and she has two days to finish the final draft of her book. As her toddler lists demands that a terrorist would be proud of, the author calls her editor, Suzanne Baboneau at Macmillan, to postpone.

"We can't," says Baboneau. "I'll come over, we'll finish it now." But Baboneau's situation is little better. She has a is breastfeeding. The two women sit down, amid demands for pampering and Pampers, to make the cut. The author suddenly looks up: "I bet Martin Amis doesn't have to do this."

That novel was a bestseller, unaffected by its speedy, milkspattered edit, and is soon to be a film. But after Baboneau, who is my editor, told me this story, I began thinking wheth-

er creativity and procreation were compatible. I was enduring the bouncy-castle days of late pregnancy and scrabbling to finish a novel myself when I read the headlines: "Health warning: having a baby can shrink your brain" and "Just as we thought - pregnant women do lose their minds.

It was 1997 and a London anaesthetist. Dr Anita Holdcroft, had found, after scanning women's brains in late have shrunk. They returned to full size six weeks or a few months after the birth. This everyone concluded, explained the absent-mindedness mentioned in pregnancy manuals. The report irritated me be-cause this time round, in my second pregnancy. I felt mar-ginally less stupid than usual. Then I noticed a throwaway line in the study: "It is also pos-



sible that the women's brains were swelling from a normal size, the researchers conclude." Perhaps nature was giving mothers bigger brain cells or connections so they could cone with the doublethink needed to look after two people instead of one. I could but hope that this

was true. For while my pregnant body had been taken over by alien forces, my mind was still there, on overdrive, I had been rising at 3am to type my novel, half-dreaming and halfworking on scenes, when my son Finn (now nearly two) saw fit to kick me awake. Maybe it was hormonal and hallucinogenic, maybe it was because I knew my spare time was about to be rudely shortened, but the first draft was written a few weeks before contractions be-

Health warning: pregnancy may be linked to creativity but there is no way of telling, as with childbirth, if the result will be good or bad. Barbara Kingsolver, an award-winning American writer, says in an essay about her first novel: "The baby was premeditated, but the book I'd conceived reckless-

ly, in a closet late at night, when the restlessness of my insomniac pregnancy drove me to compulsive verbal intercourse with my soul. The pages that grew in a stack were incidental to the process." Louise Erdrich,

of The Beet Queen and other novels, wrote in Harper's about her working day in a hut opposite her house: "I come here every day to write,

starting while invisibly preg-nant. I imagine myself somewhere else, in another skin, another person, another time. Yet simultaneously my body is constructing its own character. It recruires no thought at all for me to form and fix a whole other person."

When her child is born everything goes belly up, so to speak. She doesn't get much done, and all pleasure is "tempered by sleep deprivation. We wonder why prisoners break more easily without sleep." Desperately she tells her baby: "I give up. 111 tell you anything," Indeed, sleep deprivation, more than anything else, is probably what causes new mothers to lose their minds. But there are times when it all clicks for Erdrich: "Sometimes l hold my child in one arm, nursing, and write with the other hand, with no separation of thought and physical being."

Creative writing may be the

one activity, apart from housework, that can just about be combined with child-rearing. Lucille Clifton was once asked why her poems were always short, and replied: "I have six children, and a memory that can hold about 20 lines until the end of the day."

Birthing books and babies is not a recent habit. Marguerite Duras produced her first son and novel in 1942. Mary Wollstonecraft published A Vindication of the Rights of Women, ran off to Paris, found a lover and got pregnant in the middle of the French Revolution. She was determined to finish volume one of An Historical and Moral View of the Origins and Progress of the French Revolution before giving birth in 1794. She seems to have equated her book with her pregnan-

cy: "It has grown under my hand," she wrote in the introduction. Wollstonecraft's interpretations of the Revolution alnancy progressed. Her biographer

pregnant writes: "It was important to her to be able to reassert her women faith in bumanity and its future as ar hallucinate intellectual corollary to the emotionnaturally al and physical

Men rely

on drugs,

promise of her child." Wellstonecraft died after bearing her second child, who became Mary Shelley.

Again, Shelley's Gothic novel. Frankenstein, was pub-lished in 1818, and she had given birth to two children (who died in 1820) in the two preceding years. Studies of women's dreams during pregnancy show them to be particularly psychedelic and vivid, and who can say how this affected the birth of Frankenstein himself. While men may rely on drugs for seminal works such as Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, women have their hallucinations naturally. As Erdrich says: "One could say that my work is hormone driven ... I feel I am transcribing from a flow of language run-

ning through the room." A heroine in my own novel is an absurd, rather dizzy New York artist who suddenly finds inspiration during pregnancy, perhaps as much by the need to make money to support her

Alternative to hysterectomy

ONE woman in 20 aged between 30 and 50 consults her doctor annually about heavy periods. This underestimates the problem, however, as one woman in four has periods that are heavier than is medically desirable.

A new means of treating this problem — by eradicating part of the lining of the uterus. thereby avoiding a hysterectomy — is now being used by some gynaecologists. It in-volves the heating of a sterile fluid contained within a balloon, which has been introduced into the uterus, to a point where the uterine lining is destroyed. It does not involve admission to hospital.

Human nature doesn't change, Dr James Johnson, writing in The London Medi-cal Review in 1825, said: "We consider, entirpation of the uterus one of the most cruel and infeasible (sic) operations that was ever executed by the head or hand of man." Even today, in a third of cases of hysterectomy, there is no obvious disease in the uterus that, causes excessive bleeding. ThermaChoice, the heated-balloon method of treatment, would reduce the need for any thoughts of bysterectomy.

fined by doctors as the loss of more than 80ml of blood during any one period, a condition known as menorrhagia. They consider as excessive the need to change a pad or tampon more often than every two hours. The use of more than ten sanitary pads a day for more than seven days is an indication that periods are heavier than they should be. When there is a heavy loss of blood. there is also likely to be occa-sional flooding, with attend-

ant social embarrassment The important tests are whether a woman feels that her periods are heavier than they should be, or whether the recurrent blood loss has affected her general bealth as a result of her becoming anaemic. The woman may not even realise why she is unusually tired; or even breathless, but the effects will influence her domestic social and professional life.

Doctors divide menorrhagia into two categories.

Those which are related to physical abnormality in the uterus are described as structural menorrhagia — conditions such as polyps. fibroids, infections or endometriosis, or very occasionally, a malig-

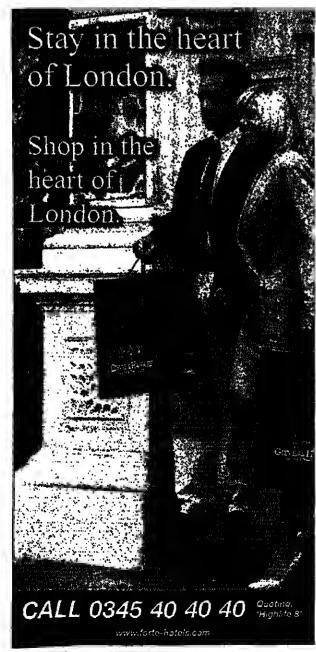
nancy. The second group is labelled dysfunctional menor rhagia — the result of some medical condition, such as a side-effect of taking some par ficular drug or, more offer hormonal imbalance.

Many drugs are used in the medical treatment of dy man tional bleeding, often after di lation and curettage (D and — in which a doctor scrape away the lining of the so that its cells may be ined under the microscope This is not a treatment but necessary step in any invest gation. Surgical treatment fo heavy periods consists of e ther hysterectomy or uterin ablation. Hysterectomy, the re moval of the uterus, is th choice of treatment in som forms of structural menor rhagia. Uterine ablation is the removal of a greater part of the uterine lining, the source of the heavy bleeding. It is no always successful and some will need a hysterectomy later

MEDICINE CHEST

ThermaChoice (uterine bal-loon therapy) and uterine ablation are equally effective. Ther-maChoice is comparatively cheap at about £300 on the NHS. A local anaesthetic is given before the balloon is inflated with enough sterile fluid to fit snugly into the uterine cavity. The fluid is heated to 87C and maintained at that temperature for eight minutes. This level destroys a significant proportion of the uterine lining. Thereafter, the fluid is drained away, the balloon de-

flated and the device removed. The procedure, which takes less than half an hour, effectively controls bleeding in 85 per cent of cases; thereafter menstrual bleeding usually continues, but at an acceptable level. Although subse quent conception is unlikely it can occur, and a woman should continue usual contraceptive measures. There can be pain, infection and bleeding but these affect less than 4 per cent of women and no serious adverse effects have bee reported. Periods may take two or three months to return to an acceptable level.



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child as the creative urge. For

another great advantage of childbirth is that it eliminates

writer's block; if your children are in nursery school for four

hours, you have to insist that

That's enough anecdotal evi-

dence. You'll be glad to hear that studies published last No-

vember by the neuropsycholo-

gist Craig Kinsley, of the Uni-

versity of Richmond in Virgin-

ia, show that hormones re-

leased during pregnancy

make animals bolder, more cu-

rious and energetic. In preg-

nant mice the number of brain

cells necessary for communica-

tion between neurons doubled

the brain for a lifetime," says

Dr Kinsley. "The brain of a

late-pregnant female resem-

bles a toy factory at Christmas. receiving orders and gearing up for the increased demands

about to be placed on it." Woll-

stonecraft, Shelley and Er-

drich could have told him that.

Suffragette City by Kate Muir is published this week by

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A prisons inspector of compassion and conscience

General Sir David Ramsbotham is a man on a mission. Interview by Grace Bradberry

I'd like to

be Chief

Inspector

of the

Prison:

Service

ompassion is a loaded word when it comes to prisoners, particularly those sentenced to life. Should we show any to people of taken a life, raped, committed (esterday it was presided that not restored it was presided to the restored it was presided to t who have taken a life, raped, committed arson? Yesterday it was revealed that not only are there now more than 4,000 lifers. but that some of them are elderly (the oldest is 87): At Kingston jail in Portsmouth, a special unit has been fitted with chair-lifts, ramps and suitable bath facilities.

Zimmer frames in the cell blocks—

what a sad vision. But it is the sort of depressing sight to which General Sir David Ramsbotham, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales, has become inured since he took over from Judge Stephen Turnim in 1995. 'Rambo', as he was apparently affectionately known in the Army, was appointed by Michael Howard. The hardline Home Secretary presumably hoped that a tour of duty in Northern Ireland and experience of the Military Corrective Training Centre in Colchester would have produced a more robust attitude to prison. regimes than that possessed

by Sir Stephen. Sir David did indeed apply military principles to the job — although not in the way that Howard might have hoped. That was a fantastic military manoeuvre," be says, chor-ling as he recounts his "walkour" from Holloway in only his second week in the post. The prison was at a standstill. It was filthy dirty and nothing was happening. So I felt that - good old military principle if it's dirty, show again."

Wouldn't it have been better just to finish the inspection and produce a full report? "At that time I was very comcerned that reports of the inspectorate were taking over a year to be published nothing would happen." In other words, it was a counter-tactic to Howard's ruse of

And so began the battles with home secretaries, the director of the prison service. the Whitehall machine, that have been waged, often through the media, for four years. Sir David sees himself as Our Man in Wandsworth, there to give the public the truth on their prisons and to stick up for the welfare of prisoners. Officialdom sees him as a prickly thorn in its side.

You might think that the arrival of new Labour would have changed that, but scarcely a month had gone by when Sir David announced that the Government was planning to merge the probation and prison services to cut reoffending. The



Sir David: sees himself as a crusader

Government denied it, and Jack Straw is said to have phoned Sir David to express "extreme irritation".

Sir David sees himself as a crusader, just as much as Sir Stephen did. He be-fieves that jails are doing a great job of keeping prisoners locked up but are fail-ing to reform prisoners while they are inside. "You could use that time to identify what is wrong with someone — rather like a hospital — and then use that time for the best advantage of the individual and to the best advantage of the public," he says.

His is a mission that goes way beyond simply filing reports on the state of latrines and the length of time spent in cells - and, it must be said, a mission that-ends to go way beyond the remit of his ob which is simply to inspect prisons, not he prison service as a whole.

He is 70, but his secretary tells me that le rises at five o'clock each morning, a labit acquired when he and his wife, Susin, were taking the same Open Universi-t art history course. They have two sons. one of whom entered the Army. Educated a Haileybury then Corpus Christi. Cambridge, he was considered one of the Army's intellectuals. He also faced his stare of danger, including a car bomb nistakenly planted under a neighbour's.

because, of course, he doesn't slouch. But there is a brio and flamboyance about him that dispel any stiffness (he used to go into battle wearing a red cravar). He tells me with gusto of an inspector, many years ago, who committed suicide in Wandsworth prison. You can't imagine anything getting Sir David down.

He has only Il months of his five-year

contract left and it is natural to wonder what he considers his chief achievements. "Golly." he says. "Er. Well. I think probably the key achievement is to encourage the prison service to treat women and young offenders separately from adult males." When he first went to see Richard Tilt, the Director-General of the Prison Service, "I discovered that there was nobody in charge of women in the prison

service except for a civil servant in some policy desk." There is now a director of regimes, with an as-sistant director in charge of women and young offenders. So much for his achieve-

ments. But his ambitions are greater. Ideally, I would like to be, and have made no secret of it, Chief Inspector of the Prison Service," Straw has told him, plainly, that he can't. And so he is left to comment

on conditions - but not on the system that creates them. His principle gripe is that when criminals are incarcerated, they enter a kind of isolation zone. When he first began in-specting he found that even the pre-sen-

tence reports were not automatically passed to prisons. The social services wouldn't share anything, which worried us, about youngsters, particularly. And: "An awful lot of people didn't seem to think it appropriate to contact schools and find out what the record had been." The prison medical service is separate from the NHS, "So medical records don't get fransferred. Now this seems to me to be absolutely mad, frankly."

His other major beef is that prisons do not try to discover more about the people they are locking up. In addition to the education assessment that already takes place, he would like to see questions asked about social skills, fitness and work skills. "The New Deal this Government has introduced includes a psychometric test. What is interesting in those is that they produce an idea of the potential of an individual. That says to me Well; why don't

we do that anyway?
The hideous fact is that 90 per cent of those leaving prison don't get a job, and having been in prison anyway you are disadvantaged, so for heaven's sake don't pile misery on top of misery."

t was views such as these, all geared towards rehabilitation rather than retribution, that led to clashes with Michael Howard. "He said to me that he understood that I felt that people went to prison as a punishment and not for punishment. I said, yes, but I thought that was the policy of his Government, because that was actually quoting Leon Brit-

"He said he disagreed with me, and so I asked him what sort of prisons he expected me to find, and he said "Decent but austere in which there are progressive regimes to tackle reoffending based on the opportunities for work and education. I have to say I wondered where the punishment was in there. We didn't go on . . "

He is far more circumspect about his relations with Jack Straw. Are they any better than with Howard? "I don't know that I can really answer that," he says, warily. "I see them both regularly. Funnily enough, I saw Michael Howard in Westminster Abbey at the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. I was sitting behind him. Ha, ha, ha. The irony of the occasion cannot be lost on either of them.

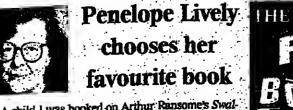
"I think it is true to say that Jack Straw's agenda is different from Michael

Howard's and he is establishing, thank goodness, the principle of the criminal jus-

tice system working as a system."

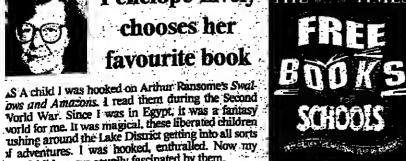
In truth, much of the friction with both Home Secretaries has centred on Sir David's skilled use of the media. He was even included in Chapman Pincher's recent Speciator article. "Leakers I have known". He looks rather embarrassed when I mention this. "All my reports are made public," he says: "None of them is classified, so where are the secrets? I've got none. And I can't have. And I'm telling the public about their prisons."

There remains something incongruous about this military man championing compassion to our prisons. Is he a liberal. then? "If liberal means do I support the idea that prisoners must be treated with humanity then the answer is yes. They are human beings."



grandchildren are equally fascinated by them.

chooses her favourite book as A child I was hooked on Arthur Ransome's Swalows and Amazons. I read them during the Second Vorld War. Since I was in Egypt, it was a fantasy world for me. It was magical, these liberated children





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Smother me and mother me. Margaret and Robin Cook, Bill Clinton and Hillary, Jerry Hall and Mick Jagger, Rachel Hunter with Rod Stewart

Looking for a mummy

f you're worth your salt as a mem-ber of the female race, you too were probably choking on your cornflakes this past Sunday morning as you read Margaret Cook's revelations about the dastardly, serially unfaithful, Robin. If you're male you're probably wondering (in a quietly admiring way) how the hell he got away with it for so long. But, perhaps the most salient point in the whole turned story (and Margaret in the whole turgid story (and Margaret writes quite well, don't you think?) is the first Mrs Cook's analysis that her refusal to act as a mother figure to her husband may have been one significant factor in

the ultimate breakdown of our marriage". It's elementary. Every woman knows that men — for all their independent, new renaissance "let me change the nappy" nonsense — want to be mothered. And every man knows that for all his desires to marry a career babe who brings in the dough, looks good in a suit and is great in the sack, he really wants to be cooked fish pie, tucked up in bed each night and

soothed to sleep on a comforting bosom.

If you're seeking the perfect example, look no further than the boys from Men Behaving Badly. Years of macho, drunk-ch, loutish behaviour and where did it get them? Shacked up with two respectable, mumsy types who will no doubt be profering slippers, pipe and forgiveness in the next series (if there is one).

Of course, forgiveness is key to murimy-ing in marriage. After all, Margaret Cook kept the relationship limping along for years by turning a blind eye at best and reproaching at worst. And Hillary Clinton could teach a masterclass in forgiving and forgetting. Who among us hasn't fall-en for the little boy lost act? Dammit, women are programmed to say "ahhh" to puppies, kittens and any human under four years of age. There's a kind of Darwinistic instinct present in males that makes their first line of defence the doe-eyed, "I'm sorry I didn't mean it" approach.

The problems start, as Margaret Cook rightly points out, when the female part-ner refuses "to be mother". I doubt whether Diana, Princess of Wales ever intended to serve Charles boiled eggs on a tray in front of the telly. Although the inidal approach she took, of coming over all maternal and "feeling his pain" at the loss of Earl Mountbatten, was probably what hooked him in the first place. But Diana, with all her insecurities and frail talents, needed looking after herself, which was probably why Charles returned to the more motherly Camilla Parker Bowles.

f you've got a strange relationship with your mother-in-law, take it as a compliment. Mothers can spot pro-the idea of their darling boy marrying anything less. Hence the Queen's reserve about Diana, but embracing of Sophie Rhys-Jones. She might purport to be a business whiz, but with legs like that, a sol-id middle-class Home Counties upbringing and a savvy understanding of what she's getting herself into, Sophie will un-doubtedly take over where Mrs Windsor Senior left off.

You don't have to be dowdy to "mum-my" in marriage. In fact, it would help if you weren't. The new male would like nothing better than to combine supermodel with super mummy. If you could be Diana by day and Delia by night you'd have the marriage market all sewn up.

But even those who have the whole package get bored. Rachel Hunter has decided she "needs some space" away from husband Rod Stewart. And the glamorous Jerry Hall has allegedly become tired of the maternal care and devotion she's given Mick — not to mention turning a blind eye to all those infidelities. Having given birth again, she's decided she has enough on her plate, without dealing with the antics of a 55-year-old going on five.

So, you're sitting there smugly thinking that of course you are not (a) the "mummy" in your marriage or (b) married to a "mummy". Well. think again, mummying can take many forms. Sure, your husband/partner cooks for you occasionally. but doesn't the kitchen look like an engine from Concorde has dropped into it when

Every woman knows that for all their talk of independent lifestyles, men just want to be mothered, says Tina Gaudoin

also part of mummying. How many times have you been halfway through issuing instructions to your partner about how to erect the travel cot, or get the phone recon-nected (because he's forgotten to pay the bill) when an anguished or plain dumb look, illicits the aforementioned reaction.

Admittedly some men don't even make any pretence at deviating from the mother norm — they go the whole hog and marry women who are like their mothers, literally or metaphorically. Take Richard and Judy, daytime talkshow hosts. Husband

he's finished? And don't you find yourself cleaning up, after he's cleaned up? The don't-bother-!'Il-do-it-myself response is asked why?', the answer is to be found in Judy's constant and warm affirmation of

Richard on (and one imagines off) screen. As Margaret Cook's agonising memoirs make clear, a man who is not having his ego bolstered, is a man who is primed for an affair. I'm talking about the appreci-ative guff that we females put out on daily on behalf of our male partners. I, who pride myself on being the antitiesis of my husband's "mummy", am guilty of plenty of it. At dinner parties he sits smugly as I recount how he is "great with the children", can run a 3hr 20 marathon or has

"worked incredibly hard". The point is not that he does not say flattering things about me; it is just that if you listen closely, you'll notice that female discourse is lit-

tered with male affirmation.

And don't think men haven't cottoned on to the weaknesses in those of us who profess to have non-mummying relacon-ships. In fact, manipulating one's independent, non-mummyish "power wife" has become something of a late 1990s, testosterone-loaded game.

A friend of mine recalls a conversation she overheard between her husband (a lawyer) and his friend (a barrister) after she and the barrister's wife had handed over their respective six-month-olds while they went shopping. Lawyer: "I hope I can get this feeding and nappy changing thing right". Barrister: "Get it right? Good God, you need to do the whole thing as badly as you can so you're never asked to do it again!"



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Guardian man and a secret love

ow can you tell if your lover is infatual-ed with another? The surest giveaway is "mentionitis". A condition first identified in the best-selling guide to doomed love, Bridget Jones's Diary, it is a killer clue more ominous than lipstick on the collar. If a particular name crops up consistently in your partner's conversation at the oddest points, a repetitive invocation of "Mark" this or "Mary" that, then that really is it. Now's the time to make the traditional preparations for parting — arranging a jungle trip to South America, calling

serialisation rights.

Margaret Cook had to live for years with the knowledge that her husband was fascinated by another. The telltale signs were there, even when Robin Cook spoke disparag-ingly of his mistress. The leader of the Labour Party also has an obsession; so does the Editor of The Guardian. But do their regular partners read

your agent and negodating

Tony Blair can't help mentioning his mentor, in a manner which recalls Mr D'Arcy's attitude towards Elizabeth Bennen. The superficial disdain cannot mask the consistency of that woman's hold on the imagination. Mr Blair may claim to hate her, but he's clearly besotted with Marga-ret Thatcher.

He invited comparisons between his 1997 manifesto and her's in 1979 and then sought to claim the Government's handling of Diana's death was "his Falklands". Some might

consider it required rather greater steel to send a task force halfway across the world to raise the Union Jack than to send a spin-doctor up the Mall to lower the Royal Standard. but in love it's the thought that counts.

But this particular affair is likely to end just as the first Oedipal infatuation did in tragedy. Mrs

Thatcher's success sprang from her willingness to defy consensus and risk unpopularity. She won admirers because she walked alone. Mr Blair is afraid to stand out in Europe, unprepared to divorce himself from the fashionable and incapable of distancing himself from reliance on Peter Mandelson. He wills the end without daring the means. Faint heart never won Iron

Lady. The same sickness of the heart afflicts another on the Left. The Editor of The Guardian is a man in the grip of a doomed obsession. Although Alan Rusbridger devoted two pages of his newspaper yester-day to how he fell in love with the Net, the real object of his infatuation is another global media phenomenon.

The name is mentioned, almost every day, in his paper. And the image of the one who holds him in thrall has been transformed into an icon. Just as Renaissance artists had to incorporate the face of their muse on murals, or latter-day lovers hire Piccadilly Circus neon signs to make their oroposals, so The Guardian's Editor has decorated billboards across the country with the profile of his obsession. and a brief quote from the beloved. The face that launched these thousand

clips? Rupert Murdoch's. Of course, The Guardian protests that it hates the dark prince of print. It really detests him. Oh God, can't stand the

vulgar creature. But it won't

stop mentioning his name. In an editorial yesterday it even managed to blame him for this Government's woes. Talk about counter-intuitive. The idea that the real source of recent trouble is neither Brown nor Mandelson but an international media magnate shows a disregard for the obvious which is the hallmark

It is, on one level, an example not so much of shooting the messenger as riddling the post office with artillery fire. But, on a deeper level, it reflects a man not fully can imagine Mr Rusbridger confiding in a friend, like Jude discussing her obsession with the dastardly Vile Richard in Bridget Jones's Diary: 'I hate him. I hate him, I hate him. (sob)... oh God, why does he do this to me. I can't get him out of mind." Or out of the

Guardian writers blame Mr Murdoch for Tony Blair's failure to sign instantly up to the euro. The Guardian itself holds him daily responsible for lowering the tone of our nadonal life, it won't be long before they claim he invented

the millennium bug. Yesterday, most curiously of all, the paper's Editor celebrated the unregulated vitality of the Net and yet his editorial, which blamed Mr Murdoch for Labour's crisis, attacked the mogul's papers for their unregulatable vitality.

The Guardian did not seek to deny that the Labour Party was divided, merely that the fact should not be reported.
"The feuding," it noted, "had always

been known among Westminster hands, but now Labour factionalism has been dragged into the journalistic mainstream." Naughty Mr Murdoch, letting the readers of his 30-penny-dreadfuls in on all this ministerial wrongdoing. Next thing we know he will be

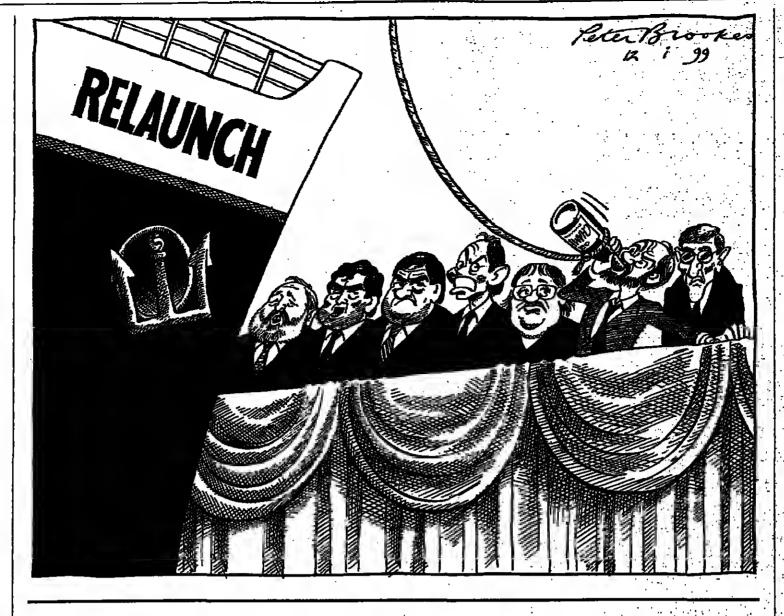
printing their hotel bills. The reason for The Guardian's fascination with Mr Murdoch is that he encourages what it claims to promote free thinking. His newspapers, like the Net itself, are driven by public demand and the creativity of chaotic, cock-snooking, individuals.

n his essay on the Internet yesterday Mr Rusbridger admits to his fascination with Junius, the anonymous 18th-century writer who "caused so much trouble with his prose that he was charged with sedition". The Guardian is dedicated, like all good newspapers, to causing trouble. Just ask Jonathan Aitken. But it cannot come to terms with the fact that the greatest godfather of mischief in print is Mr Murdoch. And it particularly resents the 18th-century pamphleteering vigour of his newspapers' assaults on its own liberal heroes.

Newspapers today are not yet as savage as Georgian writers or caricaturists were in their denunciation of the pox-ridden dropsical thieving pol-iticians of their time. More's the pity. But Richard Littlejohn, Peter Brookes and Matthew Parris do their best.

The knowledge that these hacks all toil in the infernal regions of Wapping may bring Mr Rusbridger out in rash. But his irritation is the sincer-

est form of flattery. michael.gove@the-times.co.uk



A divorce of convenience

es, of course I read the Cook-book extract. Avidly, if you must know. But I still wish she hadn't done it, or had disguised it as a witty novel. After all, cui bono? The only test of any action is whether it does good; and who can possibly benefit from this post-marital character assassi-

Not Robin Cook, certainly. There are no grounds for thinking that a public list of his faults will make him humble, repentant, and resolved to lead a better life. Not Margaret Cook: despite the money, I suspect that she will come to regret having intemperately breached the privacy of a marriage that encircled 28 years of her life. Nor will their two adult sons reap any advantage. Either they know all there is to know about their father's adulteries and arrogance, or they would rather not. Or, at least, would rather it was not in The Sunday Times.

The reputation of marriage as an institution cannot benefit, either. Exposing a partner's infidelities is justifiable because infidelity is a great betrayal and it takes saintlike virtue not to proclaim it. But exposing lesser faults, oddly enough, is far less excusable. Call me old-fashioned, but it seems to me that one of the great things to be said for being married is the combination of company and privacy. Thus one can (occasionally) pass out cold on the dining-room floor hugging a bottle of brandy, badmouth one's colleagues, dent the car, forget to cancel the papers, suffer what the ladylike doctor calls "superficially stress-related problems . . . in marital relations", have a spot of memory loss, shout at the children, and bang down grudging cheques on the kitchen table with a "harsh stream of expletives", while all the time having the security of knowing that you are among friends — one friend, the best kind - and therefore will not be grassed upon to the newspapers.

This is not to excuse chronically bad or violent behaviour, meriting a walkout. But in the normal way of things we all sober up, apologise to spouse and children, take the tablets, practise smiling into the mirror and go out again, image undented, to face the cruel world. I have always thought of this as a permanent contract, part of the marital deal and not to be nullified even by divorce. It is my earnest hope that when I run off with a 22-year-old personal trainer, my spouse will stick to exposing my infidelity, and not start going into

All of Labour's futile spinning cannot conceal the real question in the Cook story

shaming details about grey under-wear, leaving the knife in the jampot, how I bought expensive three-dimensional jigsaws and never did them, or any harsh streams of expletives I may have let fly about Times colleagues in the privacy of a

bottle of Laphroaig.

No: she shouldn't have done it.
But there is one area in which the
book might benefit sober government. This is the story, newly amplified, of what happened at the airport when the Cooks were leaving for their holi-

day in August 1997. Mrs Cook's account - never challenged - says that they were "rehabilitated" and full of happy plans when a message came for Mr Cook to ring Alastair Campbell the PM's press officer. He went quiet; in the VIP lounge, he said: "I am afraid there won't be any holiday. It's News of the World of my affair with Gaynor on Sunday.

I can't leave the country. I think you and I should part." There was also a conversation with Mr Blair, she says, in which Cook kept saying "I understand. I understand" and after which he announced "I shan't lose my job". Then, despite his wife's expressed wish, he declared the marriage over in an interview accompanying the book, Mrs Cook spells it out. "He coldly weighed up the consequences of dropping either her or me and thought that, if he dropped her, she would have made life very

difficult for him." Worse, she also believes that the press secretary and the PM forced a snap decision for "news clarity". Tve no idea what ultimatum he received from Campbell and Blair - but they clearly wanted to avoid the image of his having a bit on the side and dropping her as soon as the affair was revealed. The image of a genuine, impassioned love affair and a stale marriage was one the

public might more easily be

persuaded to believe and accept." Now, this is serious stuff, and does belong in the public domain. Most hardnosed pundits seem to accept it as a justifiably macho political decision, but to a normal conscience it is, as Peter Mandelson might put it, gut-wrenching stuff. No busband and wife, however rocky the marriage, should ever be put in such a position by an employer. Yet Mrs Cook's theory is uncomfortably plausible: although

abandonment is a step beyond adultery, in the age of serial marriage the idea of a grand passion is easier to sell than the risible cliché of the philanderer who furtively skulks home, in Orwell's unforgettable phrase, with "the uice of the forbidden fruit dripping from his whiskers It is a matter of record that the passion" "grand line has since been fed to us assiduous-remember

Cook's crass line about his never having known more happiness, and the lovely hat for a lovely lady? The whole thing smells of black magic, spin-magic, the weaving of glib stories. Robin Cook's career (doomed now, and who cares?) is no longer the issue. Mr Blair and Mr Campbell should level with us. Tell us — or play us the tapes — of exactly what was said to the Foreign Minister at the airport. Did they tell

him that image was more important than marriage? That focus groups suggest 23 per cent more sympathy for passionate second marriages than for two-timing liars? Or did they uphold human and family values and calmly suggest that he make a statement after a thoughtful holiday? What did he mean by "I understand . . . I understand . . . "?

It is not pleasant to contemplate. I never thought I would be nostalgic for Cecil Parkinson, but perhaps it was the lesson of Parkinson which the panicking news-managers remembered. He went back to his wife, remember, after a period of dithering, but it was the dithering that scuppered him (marked by the wonderful Bernard Levin comment that this man "organises his private life in a novel manner, by promising to share his future with whichever lady has most recently spoken sharply to him"). Maybe Labour crudely advised Mr Cook to avoid the Fatal Attraction trap, pacify the potential bunny-boiler and rely on the stiff upper lip of his nice Scottish-doctor wife to stay buttoned. If this is true, it stinks. If not, tell us so,

News management is the curse of the age, only just behind its parasitic twin, media intrusion. It should not be necessary for a Government with a big mandate. Mr Brown says that this is the week when new Labour begins to "deliver", and we are promised a daily flurry of policy initiatives. Mr Blair begs to be judged only on the Government's effects, not the charac-

ters of its ministers. OK then: show, don't tell. Stop nagging us, stop feeding us meaningless phrases, stop showing off on television and bombarding us with boringly righteous newspaper colurning pretending to be by the PM's own hand. Stop holding silly, sick photocalls in which a gruff bachelor Chancellor helps a reluctant toddler to cut his cake. These things masquerade as tools of democracy and open government, while in fact they have the opposite purpose to bamboozle and confuse.

n the name of God, chaps, just do it pay nurses properly, support schools (not just by distributing yet more expensive doorstops labelled Numeracy Hour). Give up glitz and salons, and listen more carefully to the thousand unglamorous, hardworking lobby groups who from close to the ground can express the problems of hospitals, of prisons, farms, schools, inner cities, families, countryside. Do the boring stuff. Work out a proper policy about whether we are in Europe or not. Find somewhere for the street-sleepers to go, and back the charities which get them back on their feet. Make the trains run properly, or renationalise them. Be nicer to Clare Short. Get Frank Field back. Promote Kate Hoey. Be dour and honest, transparent with the records but sparing of comment.

And when ministers get into human muddles, and the press finds out, just keep your damn spoon out of the pudding.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Lunch hunch

FFION JENKINS seeks dosh from Blair crony. Or so one of those downmarket newspapers might try to make hay from an innocent lunch. There was the wife of the Tory leader (below left), looking delicious, sitting opposite Lord Alli (right), the Labour aesthete and donor, at the Ivy yesterday. Michael Portillo and Ed Victor

looked on, faintly puzzled. So what was the purpose of the rendezvous? "Waheed is a prominent business-man," Fion, director of the Associa-tion of Business Sponsorship for the Arts (ABSA), tells me. "I was updating him on new ideas and was meeting on ABSA business." Hmm. But the Tories could do with



• THE backbiting continues. Westminster still buzzes with tales about my friend Peter Mandelson. despite his fall from grace. One

such story goes that, so besieged by newspaper Johnnies was he over Christmas, that his good friend from Brazil, Reinaldo Avila de Silva, was a prisoner in his

house for a few days.

The poor thing had to rely on the disgraced minister's snacks, brought up to the boys' room where he was apparently hiding. Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, Peter's able helper, is as appalled as I am by the claim: "As far as I know. there's no one else living in the

Joint action

DISCREETLY, Jack Straw has plugged the loophole that allowed papers to identify his son as a cannabis seller. The Home Secretary has added a line to the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill preventing young ne'er-do-wells from being named. Papers embarrassed Straw by disclosing Wil-liam's identity after realising that. as the proceedings were not "active", he could be outed. Ministers, and offspring, can smoke in peace.

 AFTER the bilious resignation of Sir David Gore-Booth from the Foreign Office, he wants a bank job. His old boss. Lord Hurd of Westwell, trousers £250,000 a year from NatWest Markets, and Sir David might get on the board of HSBC, which has taken over the less than smart Midland Bank.

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Newsround

SIR NORMAN FOSTER has been asked by Sir John Birt to design a new home for the BBC's news folk at Bush House. Despite having just spent £400 million moving Jeremy Paxman and Co into a modish home at White City, the D-G is now keen to move back to the centre of town. The plans include developing



everything on the Aldwych island "Shepherd's Bush has its charm but they are hidden," Michael Buerk, splendid newscaster, tell me. "We could move to Surrey and commute from Charing Cross."

● IS Tony Banks bored with he laddish image? The Sports Miniter, dressed in a three-piece suit refused to walk onto a footba pitch yesterday for a photocall because it was "too muddy".

Tinseltalk

CINEMATIC giants, by Sir Anthony Hopkins: "You've got these genuses". who talk film-school language. The metaphor of the movie. I don't know what they're talking about. You've got Taranting talking about. Orton Welles: talking about Orson Welles Bogdanovich talking about Orson

It's ciaptrap." Just so. JASPER GERARD

The Bank of England should be privatised; it should mint a gold sovereign; and banknotes should be convertible on demand'

hen politicians start calling for stability. free-marketeers should reach for their revolvers. First in the firing-line should be the French President, Jacques Chirac, and the Japanese Prime Minister, Keizo Obuchi. At the weekend they joined a chorus begun by Gordon Brown and Bill Clinton's Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin. Trying to manage a national economy in a competitive world appears to be too difficult, so they are trying to manage the world to make it less

competitive. They all argue for new international regulation of financial markets. It is not surprising that their answer is more reguladon. But it is odd that liberal economists concede one of the regulators' premises. They agree that world markets are pretty free, and thus say there is no problem. But there is a problem. Markets

are not free enough. The currency speculator George Soros argued last week that global markets were "inherently unstable" and that the IMF should become "something resembling an international central bank". He was echoing recommendations made by Mr Brown and Mr Rubin.

Mr Brown has peppered a series of speeches with references to the need for "a financial architecture for the new global economy", "global financial relation", and "new global structures for the new global age". Mr Rubin has argued that "we must substantially improve the archi-tecture of the international financial system in order to better John Laughland

prevent crises in the future". The idea that world financial markets are unregulated is, of course, precisely what free marketeers should like about them. But nothing could be further from the truth. All currencies are pure state creations: they are not titles to any property or commodity and their value depends on how well the government or the central bank manages them. Any state-controlled good is bound to fluctuate wildly in value because the state is a very clumsy regulator of supply. As the Soviet experience showed, state prod-

ucts swing from being in absurd surplus to chronic deficit. The fact that financial instruments and trading technology

have developed so greatly is no indication that the market is freer. You might as well argue that the development of burglar alarm technology is evidence of improved public security.

prior to 1914, broadly speaking, a banknote was a receipt for gold deposited with a bank. The holder could redeem it for that coin. Consequently the currency was a commodity, obeying the normal laws of supply and demand. Between 1914 and 1971 a series

of state-inspired assaults were mounted to destroy this natural order and to nationalise the control of money. States simply absolved central banks of their

notes, in cash. It is just as if a private bank refused to honour its cheques or denied account holders access to their own money. The introduction of the euro is only the latest example of states colluding to strip citizens of rights, and it is because inconvertible paper currencies are an enormous accretion of state power that EMU is such an important constitutional issue. Throughout British history -until recently - support for free

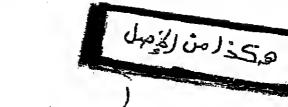
obligation to redeem their bank

trade and gold as the currency have been conjugated together. The theories of Adam Smith are incomprehensible without understanding his support for metallically convertible currencies whose supply did not depend on the State. Richard Cobden, the Liberal who led the Manchester

laissez-faire movement, wrote: "I hold all idea of regulating the currency to be an absurdity. The currency should regulate itself; it must be regulated by the trade and commerce of the world."

The right response to global regulation is not to support the status quo of state-sponsored world monetary disorder. It is to return to the monetary regime Britain traditionally championed. The Bank of England should be privatised; it should mint a gold coin, the sovereign; and banknotes should be issued which are convertible on demand into it. It is only by re-establishing a rule-based monetary regime domestically that markets can be stabilised at the international level.

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A FRESH WIND

Brown takes the right course, Blair the wrong one

It was supposed to be the relaunch of the Government after the Mandelson affair: instead the Government is already planning the relaunch of Peter Mandelson. Tony Blair is said to be keen to reinstate his disgraced Trade Secretary in about 18 months' time, before the next general election. If he really wants voters to believe that Labour is different from "the last lot". he should remember the errors of the Major administration and determine not to repeat them.

Prime among the annoyances of the last Government was the lack of contrition that ministers showed when they made mistakes. This Government, in this affair, has been just as bad. Mr Mandelson protested on the day he resigned that he had not done anything wrong or improper". Mr Blair was content to back him.

Yet the former Trade Secretary did something that was clearly both wrong and improper. Whether or not he misled the Britannia Building Society, he certainly neglected to ask his leader's permission to borrow a vast sum from a colleague only months before the election. Presumably he failed to do so for fear that the answer would be "no". And the answer would have been "no" because the arrangement with Geoffrey Robinson would have looked improper in government.

Once he was a minister, Mr Mandelson. should have told the Prime Minister. immediately of the loan. He should also have told his Permanent Secretary. That he did not do so was wrong, and it was improper. Mr Blair — a man who wears his morals heavily - must surely see this.

If so, why does he not-understand the importance of making his former lieutenant pay proper penance for his misdemeanour? Some of Mr Blair's colleagues in the party who are demanding a lengthier. Mandelson loose on campaigning before sentence have another agenda: they always the election. But even "the last lot" would disliked Mr Mandelson and distrusted his not have countenanced a return to office so politics. Their problems are their own. It is soon after such a disgrace. ...

still possible for those who support Labour's modernisation to argue that Mr Mandelson should spend a respectable period out of office before being considered for an invitation back.

The former Trade Secretary must yet learn to curb the hubris that led to his nemesis. Yet everything that Mr Blair is doing seems designed to bolster the overweaning pride that is Mr Mandelson's weakness.' It was because Mr Mandelson thought that he was not subject to the normal rules of politics that he took such a foolhardy risk. To be reinstated within 18. months also breaks the normal rules of politics: it would reinforce Mr Mandelson's delusions of exceptionality.

So does his retention as a party ambassador liaising with Bodo Hombach of the German SPD. Their meeting last week in London was held not at party headquarters or in the House of Commons but at the Cabinet Office, presumably with the help of civil servants. Mr Mandelson must feel that his exile has been no longer than that of his fellow countrymen who had a break over Christmas and new year.

The Prime Minister obviously misses his close friend immensely. He probably still feels dependent upon him for advice on policy, tactics and strategy. Yet, if what he most valued about Mr Mandelson was his judgment, should he not now, after his friend's startling lapse, begin to reassess his sources of advice?

Everyone is now trying to learn lessons from this débacle. A chastened Gordon Brown, for instance, delivered a word-perfect new Labour speech yesterday with fulsome praise for his friend and rival, Mr Blair. The Prime Minister himself must also think again. With Labour always looking for a fresh wind, he could let Mr

REAL GERMANS

Populist politics meet unpleasant prejudice

Germany's Christian Democrats and their Soviet Union. Most are the descendants of sister party in Bavaria, the Christian Social Union, have been too preoccupied by the wrangling following their defeat in October to offer any challenge so far to Gerhard Schröder's coalition. But at the weekend the two parties confirmed that they are to go ahead with an action that is certain in the long run to damage both parties and provoke the kind of suspicion across surone that would ill serve Bonn as it shoulders the European Union presidency.

At issue is the emotive question of race. Germany is one of the few countries in Western Europe that still equates citizenship with blood and soil. Under legislation passed in 1913, only foreigners who can lay claim to a German bloodline are entitled to German citizenship. Apart from the unpleasant association with the Nazis' Nuremberg laws on racial purity, the law is patently unsuited to today's conditions.

There are now some seven million foreigners living in Germany, of whom the largest group, the Turks, number over two million. Many arrived as Gastarbeiter in the 1960s, welcome hands to do the dirty jobs. Most did not return, and now their children, and even grandchildren, have grown up in Germany, speaking, feeling and acting German. Yet very few have been able to acquire German citizenship; and most are excluded from civic life, confined by a still suspicious population to mental and physical ghettos.

The anomaly of their status has become all the more glaring in view of the huge numbers of "ethnic" Germans who have. flooded in from Romania and the former

emigrants 200 years ago, speak little or no German and have little cultural affinity with the Federal Republic. They have been granted citizenship, housing, benefits and acceptance. Meanwhile, Bavaria recently deported to Istanbul a 14-year-old boy convicted of various offences even though he was born and bred in Germany.

The Social Democrats, responding to sharp criticism at home and abroad of such discrimination, announced the offer of dual citizenship to foreigners permanently resident. Most Turks want to keep their Turkish passports, partly to be eligible for inheritance in Turkey. But the CSU has begun a campaign, dragging in the CDU, to draw up a petition of protest. The Bavarians speak darkly of "mass immigration" and enfranchising terrorists, especially extremist Kurds. Responding to the xenophobia that shows itself all too often in the burning of asylum hostels and anti-Turkish violence, they are attempting to woo the far Right by exploiting the oft reiterated consensus that Germany is not a

destination for immigrants. These tactics are stupid and dangerous. The CDU, seeking also a populist cause, has balanced its support with a call for better integration of foreigners into German society. But it must know that the rhetoric of race, in Germany in particular, can carry politics to extremes. It should have no part in this wrong-headed appeal to prejudice. The Government should do what it has honourably proposed: grant belated civic equality to all those born and bred in Germany.

ONCE TWO IS TWO

And once upon a time children knew the rest

Schoolchildren have moaned about learning their times tables for centuries. An anonymous ditty from the end of the l6th century walls: "Multiplication is vexation, Division is as bad; The Rule of three doth puzzle me, and practice drives me mad." Since then, although pupils' suffering has been lessened by the invention of the calculator and the spread of fashionable education theories, a growing number of children leave school barely able to perform the most basic sums. Yesterday. David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, attempted to reverse this trend. Primary schoolchildren are to be taught more mental arithmetic, especially their tables. Calculators will be banned for children under eight. Such common sense is welcome and overdue - even though it might madden, vexate and puzzle pupils and their teachers.

Squeals from the classroom are unlikely to bother the Education Secretary. Mr Blunkett has promised to resign if, by 2002. three-quarters of 11-year-olds fail to achieve the standard expected for their age in mathematics and English. This is a challenging target as only 59 per cent-achieved this in last year's maths tests. Mr Bhinkett's willingness to fall on his sword shows admirable determination to meer his aim, and his strategy to raise standards reflects an insightful analysis of why standards are so low.

Like other subjects, the teaching of maths has been deconstructed by progressive theorists. Instead of teachers imparting a body of knowledge which pupils learnt, sometimes by rote, these educationists claim that children should discover mathematical skills by experience. The purpose of the subject has gradually switched from being less about proof than investigation. By guesswork and experimentation, pupils are to learn mental arithmetic on an individual voyage of discovery, often guided by a calculator, rather than being taught by a teacher instructing the whole

This approach has disastrous consequences. Having failed to master their times tables, young children lack the mental building blocks on which further progress depends. Some school-leavers are unable to add fractions or are ignorant of simple algebra. Without the mental crutch of a calculator, which hides arithmetic processes and magically produces the result to a sum, many children are baffled by such rudimentary challenges as calculat-

ing the cost of five items in a supermarket. Tough measures are needed to cleanse schools of these corrosive theories which have permeated deep into the culture of English education. The Conservatives are right to caution about the dangers of over-realous meddling in every school's affairs. But they should remember that numeracy, like literacy, is a basic skill which every parent expects their child to acquire, and which too many schools are failing to impart.

TERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Nursing shortage and NHS decline

From Mr Roy Lilley.

Sir. In as much as the shortage of nurses is contributing to the present ills of the National Health Service freports and leading article, January , the difficulty is almost entirely of the nurses own making.
Since the introduction of Project

2000 in 1990, nurse leaders have insisted on an almost exclusive graduate-entry training scheme for their members, effectively ending the ap-prenticeship approach to training. In consequence, student nurses are dislocated from the NHS, attached to university departments, and spend far less ome on the wards. Indeed, they are not even counted as part of the hospital complement.

Furthermore, as young graduates bave a range of other careers open to them, nursing becomes increasingly less able to attract students from a world of work offering company cars and no shift-working. There are currently 13,000 vacancies for nurses in the United Kingdom, and in 1996-97, for the first time ever, there was a shortfall in candidates for nurse-training places.

There are approximately 400,000 nurses in the NHS and it is foolish to suppose they should, or could, all be graduates. The time has come for a review of nursing and to hasten the return of the state enrolled nurse, trained from the ranks of the bright and the interested who may fall short of university requirements but could. nevertheless, be trained to do the job out of a sense of vocation.

Elitist nurse leaders see an exclu-

sive group of professionally qualified ourses as a way of levering up pay and improving status. It is a policy that is not realistic and has collapsed. doing irrecoverable damage.

A two-tiered nursing strategy, allowing for highly qualified nurses to work at the high-tech end of nursing and for trained nurses to do the work more conventionally associated with their profession, is a practical solu-

Sincerely, ROY LILLEY (Chairman, Homewood NHS Trust, 1991-94). 57 Yockley Close, Camberley, Surrey GUI5 IQQ. January II.

From Dr Stephen J. D. Brecker

Sir, The current crisis in the National Health Service reflects conditions that are only a little worse than those in which the NHS functions normally. Few clinicians in the front line believe that the service can continue in its current state. A. 6 per cent increase in the

demands on a service which functions at 95 per cent capacity will overwhelm it; yet at times like this the public expects and demands a better service - largely because of the failure of successive electorates to demand substantially increased health spending. The turning point has, I believe. arrived, and now the NHS will not be helped by £1 million or even £1 billion one-off winter cash supplements.

A fundamental rethink is required on what we wish the NHS to provide and how it is funded. The service we have is all that we can expect for close to 7 per cent of our gross domestic product; a service which better meets demand requires us to spend more -9 or 10 per cent would bring us in line with other major EU countries.

If we really want this, we shall have to make sacrifices elsewhere, having first conducted a properly informed public debate (something which has never taken place). We must choose between our health service and other major demands on revenue which might impact on our standing in the world poliocal and defence arena.

As anyone who attends international medical conferences knows, our current world standing is being undermined by our inability to debver first rate healthcare.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN BRECKER (Consultant cardiologic St George's Hospital, Tooring), 82 Regent Court, 1 North Bank, NW8 8UW. January 11.

Interest rate cuts From Mr J. R. Anderson

Sir, Economists have noted that interest rates at virtually nil levels have failed to revitalise the Japanese economy. Surprisingly, there has been little recognition that rate reduc-tions could similarly fall here (reports, January 8).

The demographic age profile in the UK means that for a large proportion of the population investment income is a significant factor, particularly in respect of discretionary spending. Reduced interest on savings accounts has an immediate impact and, given an unwillingness to reduce the capital base which underwrites future income, the obvious recourse is to reduce spending. The problem for those dependent on dividend income is compounded by the decision to eliminate or halve the tax credit reclaim.

Interest rate reductions are a crude instrument for economic control and their effects are not nearly as predictable as some might assume. Yours sincerely,

J. R. ANDERSON. 4 Vardon Drive. Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2AO.

Do term-time holidays matter?

From the Head of The Duchess's County High School

Sir, I enjoyed Libby Purves's gentle mockery of the National Association of Head Teachers, David Blunkett, the Downing Street "spokes-prig" and the Blair children's headmaster, on the matter of the one-day term-time holiday ("A note to the head". January 5; see also letters, January 4 and 7); of the possible threats to the attainment of my admirable students, the occasional family holiday in term time

does not seem very significant.

A much greater threat arises from the extraordinary inequality of funding in the nation's schools. No student of mine has a single textbook to take home: in some cases we have half a set of textbooks shared between four classes, ie, one book between eight students, and we have one quarter of the average number of computers in English secondary schools.

Not all schools are facing difficul-

ties of this order. For example, the London Oratory School's budget this year is £3.9 million for its 1,350 students (Funding Agency for Schools figures); mine is £2.2 million for my 1,025 students. The simple pro-rata difference is £1.3 million. Allowing for the Inner London weighong and the 15 per cent extra which grant maintained schools receive, there remains a pro-rata difference of nearly £1 million per year.

The Government promised to review the system, but has postponed any action for three years, presumably because redistribution, a word absent from new Labour's lexicon, might alienate newly acquired Lab-

our voters in prosperous areas.
I do not argue that the London
Oratory School is over-funded: quite the reverse, I criocise Tony Blair for failing to ensure that the advantages which our taxes provide for his children are enjoyed by children across the country.

Yours faithfully, G. THOMPSON, Head, The Duchess's County High School, Howling Lane, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 IDH. January 7.

From the General Secretary of the NAHT

Sir. Libby Purves berates me for criticising parents who totally ignore school policies on families taking holidays during term ome.

Head teachers are well aware of the difficulties which some families have finding the ome for holidays during the 14 weeks which are available out of term time. However, the law requires the

consent of the head before the child is taken away for up to ten days in any school year. Accordingly, it is untenable to portray heads who anempt to implement school policies as people who are riding rough-shod over parental rights.

It is not the General Secretary of the NAHT who is a "joyless militant" on this issue. The NAHT is simply reflecting the basic fact that thousands of schools have clear policies, endorsed by governing bodies on which parents have a voice, which do not permit family holidays during

These schools understand that absences can damage not only the education of the children on haliday. but also the education of the rest of the pupils in the class.

Yours faithfully, DAVID HART, General Secretary. National Association of Head Teachers, 1 Heath Square, Boltro Road, Haywards Heath. West Sussex RHI6 IBL. January 6.

From Mr John Jones

Sir. Has Tony Blair discovered what Winston Churchill once observed: that "Headmasters have powers at their disposal with which Prime Ministers have never yet been invested"?

Yours faithfully, JOHN JONES. 14 Hellings Gardens, Broadclyst, Devon EX5 3DX. petros13@aol.com

Census plan to 'pry' into religion

From Dr David Coleman

Sir, It seems increasingly likely that the 2001 census will require us to state our religious affiliation. This is bad news. Religious faith is a private matter, not to be pried into by compulsory public inquiries.

Most of us, even if religious, do not structure our lives around religion, which is the active pursuit of an increasingly small minority. It follows no important demand from the general public and relates to no general problems.

The main reason for its proposed inclusion is the desire by ethnic minority populations and their pressure groups, particularly Muslims, to be able to number and to label themselves publicly. This may be in their short-term interest, enabling them to argue for more group-related privileges and facilities and exercise power over and above that available them as citizens.

But it is not in the national interest for the census to encourage people to segregate themselves from the rest of

differences from each other. That way lies a new, creeping statistical apart heid which can hardly serve the integration of minorioes of immigrant origin or encourage feelings of common ciozenship in a secular society. If Muslims and Sikhs want tion about their adh they can do their own research, as Jews and Roman Catholics have

the population and to emphasise their

It was bad enough having questions on our ethnic origin in the last (and forthcoming) census. I hope that public opposition to this further divisive proposal will persuade Mr Straw and the Government to think

Yours faithfully, DAVID COLEMAN (Reader in Demography, University of Oxford) Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research, Barnett House. Wellington Square, Oxford OXI 2ER. January 8.

Castle and Gunter

From Dr Peter Bartrip

Sir, Your report on Ray Gunter's resignation as Harold Wilson's Minister of Power ("Minister quits over that bitch Barbara Castle", January records the resigning minister's less than flattering opinion of Mrs Castle, as she then was.

Although you were unable to elicit any reaction from Lady Castle, her views on Mr Gunter are recorded in The Castle Diaries, 1964-70, published in 1984.

There, in the true spirit of Labour fraternity, she describes her former colleague as both "contemptible" and "despicable and dangerous".

Yours etc. PETER BARTRIP, 8/10 Stanton Harcourt. Witney, Oxford OX8 IRJ. January 2

Honour in politics

From Mr G. E. F. Williams Sir. Michael Gove is quite wrong to

suggest (article, January 5) that Lord Carrington resigned as Foreign Secretary because he admitted "wrongdoing", let alone "impropriety". He resigned because he accepted responsi-bility for a policy that had turned out badly. In other words, he resigned on a point of honour. In the Age of Spin such a thing is, of course, unimaginable.

Yours faithfully, G. E. F. WILLIAMS. 8 Bankside. Dunton Green Sevenoaks, Kent TNI3 2UA. January 5.

Letters to the Editor that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -- 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Diet and health

From Mr F. Paul Taylor

Sir, Mrs Peggy Edwards should happily eat Delia's pastry and custard (letter, December 30; see also letters. January 8). Before the First World War people lived on fatty meat, real cream. cheese and butter and the staple food of the poor was bread and dripping. Yet death from coronary thrombosis was virtually unknown.

As Dr Alan B. Shrank pointed out in his letter (December 28), the idea that saturated fats might cause arterial disease was put forward by Dr Hugh Sinclair in 1951 and, despite much evidence to the contrary, has persisted ever since. In fact, as the eminent nutriconist Dr Ronald Finn pointed out in your columns (letter, May 24, 1994) "the great pandemic of heart disease commenced in the early part of this century" and, aided by the onset of mass smoking during the First World War, has exactly paralelled the consumption of artificially hydrogenated fats, introduced in

1909, ever since.

Reduction of natural saturated fats in our diet doesn't reduce the chance of heart disease. But I avoid artificially hydrogenated fats like the ptague.

Yours faithfully, F. PAUL TAYLOR, 7 Kingsway. Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 6RU.

Golden years

From Mr Stanley Armstrong

Sir, Mr John Pullan (letter, January 5) need not necessarily resign himself to the onset of old age. On the authority of The Chambers Dictionary (1998), m perhaps the only joke in its 1,984 pages, middle-aged is defined as between youth and old age, variously reckoned to suit the reckoner".

Yours faithfully, STAN ARMSTRONG, 10 Regency Road, Malvern Link, Worcestershire WRI4 IEB.

Dearth of officers of humble origins

From Mr John Douce

Sir. Since Major Eric Joyce published his comments on the social "elite" at senior levels of the Army (report, August 4, 1997; letter, August 7, 1997) 1
have been reading the obituaries published in *The Times*, looking out for
senior military officers who achieved
success from humble beginnings and/or rose through the ranks. There

appear to be very few. Two I recall were Enoch Powell, a man of truly exceptional intellect, and an admiral who rose through the engineering side of the Royal Navy in

Practically all the distinguished officers who featured were given a good start to their careers by being part of a famous family with good connections and/or educated at an expensive school. Considering their ages and the times in which most of those men made their marks, one should not be surprised that the landed gentry feature prominently.

What surprises me most is that I have not seen as much comment as I would have expected from either serving or recently retired officers pointing out that things have, in fact,

changed over recent years. Are there any examples of generals who started in, say, the Junior Leaders Regiment?

Yours faithfully, JOHN DOUCE. 8 Bedford Close, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 1HE. January 8.

Addressing postcodes

From Mr D. T. Johnson

Sir, Why use postcodes (letters, December 28: January I and 6)? One might well ask. I regularly receive mail not only with the wrong postcode, but also addressed to the wrong person.

These letters are correctly addressed but, despite several protests to the Post Office. I cononue to receive them. Perhaps I should move to a

different road. Yours faithfully, DAVIO JOHNSON. 97 London Road, Oadby (not Leicester) LE2 5OP. January 7.

From Mr Henry J. Pomercy

Sir, As postcodes are so important, why are they no longer included in the addresses of those listed in telephone directories?

Yours faithfully. HENRY J. POMEROY. Hare & Hounds House, Stoughton, Somerset BS28 4PT. henry.pomerov@btinternet.com

From Mrs Sheila Rowland

Sir. Hard to believe this, but about two years ago I received a letter on which the only words written were "Silver Winds". The Post Office had written, "Try East Horsley". Clever, but rather spooky. Yours sincerely, SHEILA ROWLAND.

Silver Winds, Woodland Drive, East Horsley, Surrey KT24 5AN. January 8.

From Mr Christopher Y. Nutt Sir, In 1929, when my late father was working at the Cavendish Labora-tories in Cambridge, he received a letter from the US in regular time addressed simply, "Mr Nutt, physi-

cist, England". In modern omes I have lived in an area of Pimlico postcoded SWIV. Naturally 1, and no doubt many others, found our mail was redirected via Clapham SW4, as the result of the efforts of some redundant classicist in the employ of the Post Office.

So much for technological progress.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER Y. NUTT, Bancroft Park. Little Abington, Cambridge CB1 6BO. January 6.

Light in the darkness

From Mr David Lewis

Sir, Amid recent discussion about the millennium bug I was not surprised to hear an elderly aunt referring to next year as "the malarium".

Yours faithfully. D. A. LEWIS, The Basement Flat 34 Lime Grove. Bideford, Devon EX39 4HY. January 7.

From Mr Peter Hollindale

Sir. It is disappointing to see that the Prince of Wales and many churchmen have apparently reacted dismissively to the proposed millennium candlelighting ceremony. The idea is a uniquely appropriate blend of super-

stition and practicality. A candle lit at 11.58pm next New Year's Eve may be very handy two minutes later, when the lights go out. A prayer would not come amiss.

Yours faithfully, PETER HOLLINDALE. 6 Grange Garth. Fulford Road, York YOI 4BS.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE January II: The Queen held a Council at 12.30.

There were present: the Right Honourable Margaret Beckett, MP (President), the Right Honourable Derek Fatchett, MP (Minister of State Foreign and Common-wealth Office) and the Right Honourable Sir Robin Janyrin (Deputy Private Secretary to The

The Right Honourable Stephen Byers, MP, received the Seals of

Today's royal

Office as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and President of the Board of Trade, and made affirmation and kissed hands upon appointment as a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy

Mr Alex Galloway was in attendance as Clerk of the Council. ST JAMES'S PALACE
January II: The Prince of Wales this morning received The Right Honourable Alun Michael. MP. The Secretary of State for Wales.

Sir Richard Turnbull

engagements Prince Edward, as patron. Ocean Youth Club, will visit the London Boat Show, Earls Court, London SW5, at 6. The Princess Royal, as president, Animal Health Trust, will attend a dinner at Arley Hall, Knutsford.

Princess Margaret, as president, The Guide Association, will give a reception for Queen's Guides at Kensington Palace at 5.

Royal Over-Seas League Mr Graham Lockwood, Chairman of the Discussion Group of the Royal Over-Seas League, and Sir Geoffrey Ellerion, chairman of the eague, welcomed members and their guests at a new year party held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr Stephen de Pledge, piano, winner of the accompanist prize in the league's 1998 music competition, played

during the evening. Dinners

Woolmen's Company The High Commissioner for Australia was the guest of honour at a held last night at Trinity House Mr Paul Rippon, Master, presided and Mr Rohan Courtney also spoke. During the dinner the Master presented the Woolmen's Company-Lord Barnby Bursary medal and prize to Miss Deborah Hayes. Among others present

Tonga, the Earl of Limerick (chairman. Britain-Australia Society). Mr Ian Hartley (managing direc-tor, British Wool Marketing Board), the Masters of the Clothworkers', Framework Knitters', Glass Sellers' Scriveners' Mer-chants of Edinburgh, Merchant Taylors of York and the Incorporation of Weavers' Fullers' and Shearmen of Exeter Companies and the Upper Bailiff of the Weavers' Company. The Athenaeum

Mr John Simpson was the speaker at an Athenseign dinner held last night in Pall Mall. Mr Bruce

Memorial services

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Colonel R.A. Coxwell-Rogers. Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, at a memorial service for Sir Richard Turnbull, former diplomat. held on Friday at Holy Trinity. Minchinhampton, Glou-cestershire. Canon Michael Irving officiated and gave an address.
Mr Rupert Turnbull and Dr
Richard Weller, grandsons, read
the lessons and Caroline Weller (Mrs Jonathan Knight), grand-daughter, read a letter from Sir Richard and with Ms Alexandra Weaver, soprano, and Mr David Mattinson, baritone, sang Soave sia il vento from Mozart's Cost fan

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service were represented by Sir Michael Pike. The Deputy High Commissioner of Tanzania attended and the Order of St Michael and St George was represented by Sir John Graham, Registrar, Mr and Mrs Julian Turnbull and Mr and Mrs Ian Turnbull

Alison Weller (daughter), Miss Fiona Turnbull (granddaughter), Mrs Rupert Turnbull, Mr Jonath an Knight and many other friends

A memorial service for Jocelyn Lady Londesborough was held on Friday at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, The Right Rev Edward Roberts official ed and gave an address, assisted by the prayers and read the lesson.

was held on Friday at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Lower Bemerton, Salisbury, The Rev Alan Archer officiated, assisted by the Rev George Kay, who led the prayers. The Rev John Green, representing the National ex-Prisoners of War Association, read the lesson. Mr Glyn Evans, Air Marshal Sir

Birthdays today

Miss Kirstie Alley, actress, 44; Mr Anthony Andrews, actor, 51; Mr Michael Aspel, broadcaster, 66; Miss Alison Ball. QC, 51: Sir Charles Ball, company director, 75; Lord Boardman, 80; Mr P.W. Botha former President of South Africa, 83: Sir James Bottomley, former diplomat. 79; the Hon Sir Richard Butler, former president, Dame Fiona Caldicott, Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 58; Lady Cosgrove. High Court Judge, 53: Miss Stella Cunliffe. statistician, 82; Mr Keith Dawson, former Headmaster, Haberdashers' Aske's School, 62; Mr

tator, 51; Mr Joe Frazier, boxer, 55; Baroness Hamwee, 52: Baroness Hilton of Eggardon, 63: Miss Anne Howells, concert and opera singer, 58; Sir Anthony McCowan, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 71; Mr Denys Milne, former managing director, BP Oil, 73: Mr James Mortimer, former general secretary, Labour Party, 78; the Very Rev Dr John Moses, Dean of St Paul's, 61; Mr Des O'Connor, entertainer, 67; Sir John Rennie, former Governor-General Mauritius. 82: Sir Terence Streeton, former diplomat, 69; Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, 68: Mr Peter Wilson, theatrical producer, 48.



The actress Kirstie Alley, who is 44 today

School announcements

Charterhouse The Long Quarter begins today. Timothy Burke-Murphy remains Head of School and Angeline Abbott Head Girl. Nicholas Gay and Lorraine Galliers are Captains of Hockey. The Bishop of Dorking will conduct a Service of Confirmation on Saturday, February 6, at 5,00pm. The Peter Newton Scholarship interviews for entry into the Sixth Form will be held on Friday. March 5: details from the Admis March S. Beals in the Analissions Registrar. Queen's Exeat is from Friday. February 12, to Wednesday, February 17. The Quarter ends on Saturday, March 20.

The Art School and Sculptor Court

are proud to present 'Fusion' an exhibition of the work of Mary and

Anwar Schmza from Friday, January 15, until Friday, February 12. The Middle School Play Lord of the

Flies and the Junior School Play The Demon Headmaster will be

performed on Wednesday, Febru-ary IO, and Wednesday and Thurs-

day. February 24 and 25 respective

ly. The Lent Term Concert takes place on Thursday, March 4, followed by a Joint Concert with the

Chigwellian Choral Society at St James's, Clerkenwell on Saturday,

March 20. The Business Manage

ment Conference will be held on

Friday and Saturday, February 5

and 6. Finally the Old Chigwellians

Shrove Tuesday Supper takes place

Tuesday, February 23, and those who wish to attend should contact

Spring Term at Churcher's College begins today. The College entrance examination will take place on Saturday, January 30. Half term is

the Headmaster's Secretary.

Churcher's College

Chigwell School Lent Term at Chigwell starts today and ends on Tuesday, March 30. Entrance Examinations for 7 to 10 Year Olds and External Sixth Form rions will be held on Saturday. January 16. while the 11. Entrance and Harnetts Scholarship Examinations as well as the interviews for External Sixth Form Candidates will take place on Saturday, January 23. The Music Scholarships Auditions and interviews will be conducted on Monday, February I.

(sons and daughters-in-law). Mrs Jocelyn Lady Londesborough

Air Vice-Marshal Ross Harding A service of thanksgiving for the life of Air Vice-Marshal Ross Harding

Roy Austin-Smith and Mr Russell Harding, son, paid tribute. Mem bers of the family, friends and former colleagues were present.

from February 13 to February 21. The Captain of Boys Hockey is Simon Freedman and the Captain of Girls Hockey is Sarah Page. If is anticipated that the new Library will be completed by half-term and work on the new Science block will begin in January. The four major Sixth Form scholarships have been awarded to Nicola Olle, Frances Curtis, James Martin and Ben Martin. The OCC dinner at the East India Club will be held on Friday, May 14, and bookings can he made through the College office. Term ends on Friday. March 26.

Dulwich College The Lent Term begins today. Sam Roberts continues as Captain of School: Sameer Tanna is Captain of Hockey and James Harris is Captain of Soccer. The Annual Piano Competition will be held on February 2, adjudicator Miss Clara Taylor, Chief Examiner of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, and House Music will be held on March 10. The Friends of Dutwich College Caledonian Ball will be held on February 6. The Guest of Honour at the Cricketers' Dinner on February 26 will be Mr Trevor Bailey, CBE (OA). The Courses and Careers Conference will be on Saturday, February 27. A concert of Chamber and Choral Music will be held in the Chapel of the former Royal Navai College, Greenwich on March 24. Half term is from February 13 to 21 and term ends on March 26. Registered charity No 312755.

Lockers Park School The Spring Term begins at Lockers Park mday. A number of celebrations to mark this 125th Anniversary Year will commence with Choral Evensong on February 7 (The Bishop of Bedford). Please contact the Headmaster for further details of the Spring Fete. the Ball, the Old Boys' Dinner and other planned events. Malvern Girls' College

The Spring Term begins today.

Scholarship examinations for Sep-

tember 1999 entry at 11+, 12+ and

13., and Music, Art and Sport take

place from January 18 to 21. Entrance examinations at 11- are on January 25 and 26, and at 12+ and 13+ on February 22 and 23 Half term is February 17 to 21. The Laurel Fay Instrumental Music Competition takes place on Sun-day, February 28. Term ends on Friday, March 26.

Pocklington School The Lent Term at Pocklington School, York, begins today. The Right Rev Gordon Bates, Bishop of Whitby, will conduct the Confir mation Service at All Saints' Church on Thursday, Pebruary 11, 1999. Old Pocklingtonian Eve-nings this term are to be in Cambridge on Saturday, February 20, and in Newastle on Saturday, March 6. Term will end on Friday, March 26, 1999. The Princess Helena

College Spring term begins today and ends on March 26. Hafsat Inuwa is Head of School with Loma Quince and Idil Peker as her Deputies. The Junior Scholarship and Entrance Examinations take place on Saturday, February 6. The Spring Concert will be held on March 20 at 7.30pm in The Princess Alice Hall, Future dates for next term - Summer Ball June 26. Sports Day and Garden Party
July 3, Speech Day July 10 (for
further information please contact Sir John Stephenson A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Stephenson will be held at The Temple Church, ECA. the school office on 01462 432100). Royal Russell School, Croydon A reunion for all Old Russellian who were at Ballards or Russell on Thursday, January 21, at 5pm.

St Dunstan's College Term began on Mooday, January II, at St Dunstan's College. Cap-tain of Fives is Richard Mitchell. The II. Entrance Examination is on Tuesday, January 19. The Lent Term Concert is on Wednesday, February 3. Dramatic productions include Electra on February 9 and 10 and the Preparatory Department play Oliver runs from March 18 to 20. The Guest of Honour at the Armstrong Society Dinner on March 12 will be Professor Alastair Bellingham.

Hill Schools will be held on Saturday, May 8, 1999. For details

please telephone 0181 657 4433.

Forthcoming marriages

The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and

Mrs Ray Chinnery, of Gorey, Jersey, and Amber, elder daughter

of Mrs Sunny Hall, of Southamp-ton, Hampshire.

and Miss A.J. Bailie

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Kenneth Baker, of Radwinter, Essex, and the late Mrs Jean Paron, and Alexandra Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John A.H. Baille, of Palo Alto, California, USA.

The Hon Percy Bewicke Copley

The engagement is announced between Percy, younger son of the late Lord Cromwell and of the Dowager Lady Cromwell, of Sherborne. Gloucestershire, and Tracey, daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Raymond Chapman, of Polton Hall, Bonnyrigg, Midlothian.

Mr R.J. Bowers and Miss O.C. Elion Lockhart The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of the late Dr John Bowers and of Mrs Bowers: of Lincoln Lincolnshire. and Olivia, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs Alastair Eliott Lockhart.

Mr N.A. Carr and Miss Z.P. Litherland

of Fulham, SW6.

The engagement is announced between Neil, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Carr, of Paignton, Devon, and Zoë, only daughter of Colonel and Mrs Rupert-Litherland, of East Claydon, Buckinghamphire.

Mr R.W. Geor and Miss S.A. Chandler

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of the late Mr Edgar George and of Mrs George, of Ledbury, Herefordshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of the late Mr Eric Chandler and of Mrs Chandler, of Chiswick, Lon-

Mr B.E. Nalhantis and Miss T.E.L. Billion

The engagement is announced between Basil, son of the late Mr John Nathantis, of Veria, Greece, and of Mrs Kyveli Couyou, of Vanderbillpark, South Africa, and Tanya, daughter of Mr Godfrey Bilton, of Monte Carlo, Monaco, and Mrs Anne Passey, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Ratcliffian Association

The 1999 London Dinner will be held in The Crypt at St Ethel-dreda's, Ely Place, on Priday.

February 12. Booking forms from The Secretary, 14 Ely Place, Lon-don ECIN 6RY (rel 0171 40S 1061,

Honorary degrees have been awarded to the following:

Jeremy Parman, broadcaster, jour-realist and author: Murray Pera-

hla, pianist: Jack Straw, Secretary

of State for the Home Department; Dr John Walker; themist.

University news

fex 0171 405 7440).

Leeds

Netherlands, and Annabel Jane. younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Simmons, of Richmond,

The engagement is announced between Marc, son of Mr and Mrs George Dumbell, of Wassenaar, Surrey. Mr S.P. Edwards

and Miss S.F. Wild

Mr.M.R.G. Dumbell

and Miss A.J. Simmons

The engagement is announced between Sammy, son of Mr and Mrs S. Edwards, of Edge Middlesex, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs P.D. Wild, of Northwood, Middlesex. and Miss K.A. Du

The engagement is announced between Julian, elder son of Mr P.B. Fielding, of Cambridge, and Mrs J.R. Fielding, of Teddington, Middlesex, and Kellie, only daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Jack Durnwoody. of Cape Town, South Africa. Mr E.S. Gleason and Miss P.J. Robinso

The engagement is announced between Eric, son of the late Mr. Michael Gleason and of Mrs Sheridan Heideman, of Ocean-side, California, and Pippa, only

daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Robinson of Aldsworth, West Sussex Mr H.W.T. Hace and Miss L Le Maitre The engagement is announce

between Henry, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Hare, of Crediion, Devon, and Isabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Giles Le Maitre, of

Mr N.O.N. Hughes and Miss K.L. Sankey The engagement is announced

ween Neil, elder son of Mr Noel Hughes, of Belmont, Belfast, and the late Mrs Frances Hughes, and Karen, daughter of Colonel and Mrs John Sankey, of Gibraltar Mr J.C. Haccall

and Miss J.A. Handler The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr John Hassall, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, and Mrs Eva Atkinson, of Chicago, Illinois, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Handler, of Romiley, Chestire.

Mr H.H.W. Keegan

and Dr S.J. Hickman The engagement is announced between Harry, elder son of Mr William Keegan and Mrs Tessa Keegan, both of Islington, London, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Drand Mrs Roger Hickman, of Bredgar, Kent.

Mr N.H.A. MacGregor and Miss F.M.N. Graham

The engagement is announced hetween Ninian, younger soo of Brigadier Sir Gregor and Lady MacGregor of MacGregor, of Bannatyne, Newtyle, Angus, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Graham, of Chute, Wilt-

Mr W.K.G. Mouroe and Miss J.W. Efflot

The engagement is announced between Bill, elder son of the lane Mr Kenneth Monroe, and of Mrs Monroe, of Llanychan, Denbighshire and Jane, daughter of the late Mr G.P. Elliot and of Mrs Eileen Elliot, of Virginia Water,

Mr R.J. Smethurst and Miss J.A. Perguson

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs John Smethurst, of Spital, Wirral, and Jeannie, daughter of Dr and Mrs Roger Perguson. of Oxton, Wirral.

Marriage Mr J.A. Baktwin and Miss H. Roberts

The marriage took place on January II, at Blakes Hotel, London, SW7, between Mr Jeremy Ashley Baldwin, of Lianedeyrn, Cardiff, and Miss Helen Roberts, of Liangemi, Anglescy.

Anniversaries today ...

BIRTHS: Jean Baptist van Helmont, chemist, Brussels, 1580; John Winthrop, first Governor of Massachusetts, Groton; Suffolk, 1588; Lazaro Spallanzani, chemist, Mode-na, Italy, 1729; Edmund Burke, statesman, Dublin, 1729; Jo-hann Pestalozzi, educator, Zurich, 1746; John Singer Sargent, painier, Florence, 1856; Sir Charles Oman, historian, Muzaffarpur, India, 1860, Jack London, novelist, San Francis-co, 1876; Ferenc Molnar, dram-

The Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain was found-The British-Zulu War began,

DEATHS: Luca Giordano, painter, Naples, 1705; Sir Isaac Pitman, inventor of a short-

hand system, Bath, 1897;

Dame Agatha Christie, crime novelist, Wallingford, Oxford-

shire, 1976.

The London Co-op opened the first supermarket in London at A Boeing 747 jet landed at

alist; Budapest, 1878; Curbas-tron Gregorio Ricci, mathema-tician, Italy, 1883; Hermann Goering, Nazi war criminal: Heathrow, airport af Bayaria, 1893; Georges Carpen-tier, bozer, Calais, 1894. In Manor Park, 1948. Heathrow airport after its maiden traffsaffantic flight

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BIRTHS

DEATHS

BECKETT - Margaret Alice (née Essex), oo Saturday 9th January, peacefully of home with all her family, Beloved wife of Jack, much loved mother of Ann, Peter and Flona and adored Granny of Sophle, Samuel and Alice, Service at St. John's Church, Littlewick Green on

at St. John's Church,
Littlewick Green on
Wednesday 20th January
at 1.00pm followed by
cremation (immediate
family only). Family
flowers only plesse, but
donations if desired to The
Children's Sociaty or
Camp Mohawk, Wargrave,
can be sent c/o E. Sargent
& Son, 13 The Colonnade,
Maidenhead SL6 1QL.

NOWDEN - Announcing the death of Mrs Shells

death of Mrs Shelis Margaret Rowden (Hawkins), peinter and illustrator, beloved mother and grandmother, died 10th January. Cremation 10.00am on Thursday t4th January at Putney Vale Crematorium.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 0171 481 9313

for will say in that day. I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for through you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. Isalah 12.1 (NESV).

BIRTHS

AZIMA - On January 5th at The Portland Hospital to Mie and Takashi, a son, Ryu.

BARRETT - On January 5th, 1999 at The Portland Hospital to Stephanie (née Bates) and Chris, a beautiful daughter, Isobel

BONSER - On January 3rd 1999, in Singapore, to Barbara (née Fuller) and Andrew, a son, Alestair William, a brother for

CORDEN - On Friday January 8th 1999, to Mary (née Reid) and Paul, o son, James Alexander.

JOHASHEN - Henry Cariton, born t0th Isanuary 1999 to Derek and Victoria Johashen, grandson to Keith and Margaret Peacock and also to Cariton Johashen, with Lyes KiNG - On January 8th at The Portland Hospital to Lynne (nee Flavell) and

LANGLEY - On January 9th at Oueen Charlotte's, Chiswick to Helson (née Holland) and John, a son, Joseph Frederick, Special thanks to Fiona.

to Karen (née Wilson) and Gregor, a daughter, Lilli Construct

MORRISON - On January 9th at The Portland Hospital to Charlotte (née Dobree) and Hugh, a son, Alastair McLeoti.

Crematorium.

CHRISTOPHERSON - John
Clifford. On Jonuary 8th
1999. peacefully at Walton
Heath Manor to his 90th
year. Much loved father of
Michael and Helen, fond
grandfather and greatgrandfother. Private
Funeral. Thankagiving
Service at St.
Bartholomew's Church.
Leigh, nr Reigato on
Friday, January 22nd at
2.30pm to which all friends
are welcome. Donations if
desired to The SABC
Clubs for Young People. MICOL-GENT - On January 8th 1999, to Joanne (née Greaves) and Philip, a daughter, Sophie Eliza.

OTTIMO - On January 5th, at Oxford, to Joanne Bass and Simon Ottino, a son, Solomon Tyler Bass. CLARK - On 9th January 1999. Charles Januar Clark O.B.E., M.A., at his London PRE - On January 8th at The Portland Hospital to Murion (née Overberg) and Adrian, a daughter, Giorgine Ada Catherine.

RED - On Decamber 23rd to Nicki (née Barciny Jacobs) and Robert, a daughter (Olivia Madeline), a sister for Hugo and Alexander. SUGARMAN - On January

Ath at The Portland Hospital to Livia (née Sharpe) and Lawrence, a daughter, Gabriella Georgia. WALSH - On December 21st 1998, to Melanie (née Parkin) and James, a daughter, Elizabeth Sarah

desired to The SABC Clubs for Young People, c/o Stoneman Foneral Services, Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill, RH (6AZ.

O.B.E., M.A., at his London home, also of Old Wimpole, Cambridgeahire, formerly of Bologus and Recco, Italy. Beloved friend of Peter Boggis for 35 years. Funeral will take pisce at St. James's, Sussex Gardens, W2., on Friday 15th January at 3,30pm. No flowers please, but donations to Samaritans if desired. COFFR - Jamet, noe Wrigley, born June 4th 1898, died January 7th 1999, aged 102 at Park House, Martinstown, Durchester,

Martinstown, Dorenater, Denset, widow of Major Daniel M Coffin, R.H.A., mother of Jane and Georgia, dearly loved grandmother of 8 and great grandmother of 15.

DEATHS

COORE - (Captain RN)
Godfrey Arthur, died
peacefully on 8th January
1999. Belowed husband of
Pam and father of Shirley
Vicky, Arabella and Gale.
Futeral on 20th January
of 3.30pm at the West
Norwood Crematorium,
Norwood Road SE.27.
Equilibrie to Yestman and WALTERS - On January 7th at The Pertland Hospital to Emily (26e Phelpe Brown) and Patrick, a daughter, Jemims Alice, a sister for Hogo. WINFIELD - On January 6th at The Portland Hospital to Martha and David, o Ecquiries to Yeatman and Sons, 384 Norwood Road, daughter, Rachel Fels, a sister for Max. SE27 9AA. Tel: 0181 670

COOKE - Dr Alexander
Macdougali peacefully on
January 5th at 5t Lukes
Hospital, Oxford in his
100th year, Family funeral
memorial service to be

CRACE - On January 8th
1999 at The Royal
Brompton Hospital, The
Reverend John Allan
Crace DSC aged 77, Joved
and loving hunband of
Rosemary, father of
Veronica, Sue and John
and grandad of Anna and
Robble. Cremation
Private. Service of
Thanksgiving to be held at
All Salnta Church, Steep,
Petersfield on Wednesday
January 27th at 2,30pm.
Family flowers only, but
donations if desired to
RELATE Portsmouth,
Dugald Drummond Street,
POI 2BB.

DEVOY - Brian suddenly on January 2nd aged 64, beloved husband of Amy and dearest father of Michael, Annie and Katle. Funeral at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 130 St. Margarett Road, Twickenham on January 15th at 1.15pm. followed by burial at Richmond and East Sheen Cametery.

ORIVER - Marjorle Mary: On 7th January aged 87, much loved widow of the lata Robert Blake Driver. Robert Blake Driver, mother of Sally and Nick and grandmother of Andrew. Katy, Emily and William. Following a private counting, a service of thankagiving will take place at 3.00pm on Friday 15th January at St Mary's Church, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey. No flowers, but if you wish, donations to the Princess Alice Hospice, Co James & Thomas Ltd. Mill Road, Cobham, KTI1 3AL.

DRIMY - On 8th January
1999, while staying with
his daughter, of Cefn Park,
Wracham, Walter Neville
Dru Druy, TD, for 61
years the very dearest
husband of Kae, father of
Martin, Vaneess, Nell and
Lois and greatly loved by
his 12 grandchildren.
Funeral private. No Funeral private. No flowers, but docations to Marie Curie Cancer Care, c/o Caldecotts, 12 Penybryu Wrusham, LL t; 7HY. Tel: 01978 281764. Kent, on Priday 29th January at 12 noos,

FORD - On January 7th 1999, peacefully at home. Charles Edmund Ford F.R.S., agod 86 years. Dearly loved hunband of Jean, much loved father of Peter, Michael. Christopher and Brian, also a greatly loved granded. Funeral Service Private. Thanksgiving Service at St. Nicolar Church, Abingdom on Monday January 18th at 2.30pm. Family licovers only please, donations if desired for Marie Carie Cancer Care Co. Edward Carter (FD), 107 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 10S.

POSTER-BROWN - Rear Admiral Roy C.B. peacefully on January 8th, aged 94. Dearly loved husband of Joan for sixty five years, much cherished Isther of Christopher and Robin and special. Baddad' to Mark. Tanis, Anthony, Michael and Claire. Private cremation. Memorial service to be announced.

FRASER-WILSON - At
Aberdeen Royal infirmary
on Thursday 7th January
1899, Caroline Louise aged
74 years. Survived by son
David, grandchildren
Emms. Caroline and
Richard, and daughter-inlaw Sue. Much loved and
sadiy missed. Funeral
Service on Friday 15th
January at Aberdeen
Crematorium (East
Chapel) at 2-40pm to
which all friends are
respectfully invited.
Family flowers only,
donations in Heu to
Multiple Scierosis Society.

GORDON - On 8th January, peacefully aged 87 years, Cecilia (née Coote and Cecilia (née Coote and formerly Bowman) of Almvick, beloved wita, mother and grandmother. Funeral Servica at Almwick Cametery Chapel on Monday 25th Lanuary, at 2.00pm followed by interment. Flowers if desired to Allistair Turner Funeral Services, Tel: (01665) 510699.

GREEN - John, late of Bransgore, peacefully on Jenuary 7th at the Chaifont Lodge Nursing Home, Chaifont St Peter. aged 90 years. Beloved Instant of the late Ruth, much loved father of Jampand Selly and grandfather to Charles and Harriot. Funeral Service of Chilterus Crematorium. Amerikam, Bucks, on Seturday, 18th January at 12 noon. Family flowers only, Doustious may be made to The Frienda of Sopley Church c/o Wright Funeral Services, 106 High Street, Great Missendem. Bucks, HP16 0BE.

HETUNEN - Turis died pescefully on 8th January at the Chetses and Westminster Hospital. An internent service will be held for the family in

GREER - Hamy George
Villiers (Harry), peacofully
at home surrounded by his
family on January Str.
Born Ceylon 1911. Served
1/14 Funjub Regt, POW
Malayan Campaign WWII.
Funeral at 12 noon.
January 18th at Thornford
Parish Church, near
Sherborne, Donates Family
flowers only. Donations to
Maris Curie c/o W S
Brister & Son, 100 Leathay
Road, Sherborne, Dorset.

IANGE. - Alexander passes away peacefully on 19th January, aged 91, after a short-lineae. Adored husband. Lether. grandiather and great-grandiather, He lived a wonderfully happy life which has been an example to se all

JORES - R. Geralli, author and educator, of 'Leri' Doi y Bont Borth Aberystwyth, died pescefully at his home after a long illness on January 9th 1999. A very loving husband and father, be will be so sadly missed. Family funeral in Lianiestyn on Thursday 14th January 1899. Family flowers only please. Those wishing to give thanks for Geralth life are invited to contribute towards Christian Aid through the caring hands of DJ Evans Funeral Directors. Pennhyscoch. Aberystwyth. Telephone. 01870 220249. A Thankagiving Service will be arranged at a later date. JONES - R. Gerallt, author

JONES - Christopher died o 5th January, Journalist and an Arsenal Ian. He will always be remembered by Derek, Ann, Nick, Mark and Ann. Nec., hark and Tanya. Service of Thanksgiving at St Anne's, Limehouse, Commercial Road, E14 on Thursday 14th lannary at 11.00 o'clock. Family flowers and buy plants and only but please send donations in Chris Memory to GUCH Fund c/o Dr Jane Somerville Royal Brompton Hospital Sydney Street, London SW3.

Chalfort St. Giles, diad on Sth January in hospital. Sister of Joan Reyburn, sunt of Anne Wood and Stephen Reyburn, Funeral to be held at the Chilterns Crounttorium, Amersham on Thursday 21st January at 12 noon, Flowers if desired to HC Grimstead Ltd. or departions to Blasma c/o HC Grimstead Blasma c/o HC Gris Ltd. 01494 434393.

Chilley - Prue, Pescafully, after a short illness at Cheitenham Cetteral Hospital on January 7th aged 82 years. Much loved aust of Christopher, David, Lyn, Andrew and Anthony, Prue will be sadly missed by all her relatives and many friends. Funeral at St. Jemes Church, Chipping Campdeu at 12 noon on Thursday, January 14th. All enquiries to Philip Tomline Ltd. 01386 763133

MACKAY - Marjorie Ispel (nde Boyd) of Sherwood, Nottingham died peacefully in hospital on 7th January. Will be eadly missed by Joanna, Liz, Nell, Sarah and all her grandchildren. Creus tion at Bramoots, Nottingham on Friday 22nd January at 9.30. Family Bowers only please - domatons if desired to a charity of your choles. Enquiries to Beguley Bree 0115 9605197.

MRLAN - Donald Edgar.
Adored husband of Maggie and father of Mary - Ann.
Died pescefully after a prolonged illness at Chese Farm Hospital in Enfleid on the 7th January (aged 65). Don worked for many years in the Oil Industry with Shell, BNOC and latterly as an Independent Committant, he was well respected in the Industry. The funeral will be held 10.00am, Tuesday 19th January at New Southgate Cemetery and Crematorium, Brumswick Park Road, New Southgate, Lendon N11 137. A reception will be held immediately after the funeral at West Lodge Park Hotel, Cockfosters Road, Herne Ent UFY. Family flowers only please, but donations to Chase Farm Hospital are welcomed, (mentioning that the donation is in relation to Donation if Millart.

welcomed, (mentioning that the donation is in relation to Densit Millar), via The Chief Executives Office, Chase Farm Hospital, The Ridgeway, Enfield, Middlesex EN2

To place death notices, MORGAN - Winifred
Florence passed away
peacefully 5th Inneary
1999 at East Seurey
Hospital, previously of The
World Health
Organisation and Matron
of Manchester and
Glasgow Royal
Infirmaries, also British
Red Cross Society,
dedicated her life to
oursing A much loved

oursing A much loved sister and sunt. Funeral Service at Stonemans, Doron Court, Reignte Road, Rednill, on Friday 15th January at 1pm. Tel: 01737 783456 ORRELL - Christine, sister to The Right Reverend J H L Morrell and Mary Morrell. Died peacefully

ant IBOURN - Mary Elismore (Elis), suddenly in bospital on January 8th, aged 87. Dearly loved widow of Joseph Raiph, mother of Mary and Michael and grandmother of Christopher, Carey, Neil and Titleny, Private cremation.

cknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

Morrell Died pescafully in the morning of Sunday 10th January, Much loved as Sister Lilian at St. Thomas Hospital and by many devoted friends. Pinneral in the Chapel of St Ketherines House, Ormond Road, Wamings at 11.00 am Wednesday 20th January 1992. No flowers, contributions to St. Thomas Hospital Childrens Ward.

Childrens Ward.

CWEN - Margaret Jean
(Feggie) see Neathy,
peacefully at home in
Whitchurch on Thames on
7th January 1999, aged 94
years. Beloved wife of
D.G.M. Owen, much (eved
mother of Henry Neathy
Owen (deceased) and of
Elizabeth and loving
grandmother of Marcus,
Kira and Jeremy, Fuheral
Service at Reacting
Crematorium on Mouday
18th January at 2.00pm.
Family Howers only,
donations for any
childrens charity.

PAGNY - Barbara died on

childrens charity.

PAGAW - Barbars died on Oth January 1999 after an Illness borns with courage. Former Headteacher of Enfield County School and Education Director of the Saxy Lampiugh Triest. Much loved and missed by family , friends and colleagues. Framily flowers ently, donations if desired to the North Loudon Hospics. 47 Woodnida Avance, NI2 8TF.

Thankngiving Service to be announced. be announced.

be announced.

PARKESON - Patricla
Frances, formerly of Great
Trilley, pacefully on
January 8th 1999, aged 88.
Beloved sunt, great-som
and cousin. Family
cremation followed by
service of Thankespiving at
St. Teifo't Liantille
Parthology. Abscessments Pertholoy, Abergavenny, on Wednerday 20th January at 2.00pm, Family flowers only, but donations it wished to the Hunt Servants Benefit Society, Parsices Cottage Bagendon, Cirencester,

Bagendon, Cirent Glos. GL7 7DU

PPE - H.Douglas (Dougle) on 5th January, Much loved husband of Louisa. No mouning and no flowers. Cremation at Mortiake. Tuesday 19th January at 12 flow

RAYNOR - On January 9th 1999, at Newton, Marenders, Zimbubwe: Mary Alice (nde Lampard), much loved wife of Peter, mother of Humfrey, Glies, Amenda and Philippa, grandmother of Duncan, Angels, Geraldins, John, Timothy, Jemifer and Emily, and mother-in-law of Pemy, Debbie and of Penny, Debbie and Chris.

Chris.
RESS - Jamie, posociully after a short illness, on 5th January. Diams's beloved husband for 50 years, loved and respected father. Grancher and friend. Pamily cremation. Thanksgiving later. No flowers, but if desired donations to RAF Benevolant Fund, or bulbs for planting in Amen Corner, Fawkmars, where he wanted his sakes scattered.

BLY - Gavin Waiter Hamilton. Died suddenly
after a short illness in
Hermanus, South Africa,
t0th January 1993. Creatly
loved by Jane. Jani.
Georgins, Giles.
Alexander, Nicholss,
Matthew and Gregory.

Matthew and Gregory.

ROSERTS - Suddenly on
Lamary 7th 1989, Martin
Roberts F.R.C.S. of
Woodgreen, Woodcross
Narberth. Beloved
husband of Sarah and
sdoring father of Tom,
William and Edward.
Funeral Service 12.30pm,
Thursday January 14th, at
St. John's Church,
Templeton, Narberth,
Templeton, Narberth,
Templeton, Narberth,
Pambrokeshire, followed
by interment in the
Churchyard, Family,
Howers only, Donations if
desired to launch a fund to
help locally shused
children c/o Mr G.E.
Phillips, Bryp. - Fram, 28
Crow Hill, Reverfordwest,
Pembrokeshire, SA61

Crow Hill, Raver fordwest
Pembrokeshire, SA61
ZHL, to whom cheques
should be made payable.
Enquiries to W & M.J.
Rossier & Sons, Funeral
Director, The Old Rectory,
The Norton, Teaby,
Pembrokeshire, Tel: 01834
S43169. SOMETVILLE MCALESTEROn January 5th 1999, Joan
Dorothy (née Penny), sged
22 years, Widow of Angue,
belowed mother of ian and
Mary and grandmother of
Rory, Craig, James and
Kinsy, Puneral Service
West Withhire
Cermaterium, Semington
on Thursday 14th January,
1999 at 11, 30am, Pamily
flowers only, Donations
for R.N.L.I. may be sent
c/o F.Dowey Ltd. 26, River
Screet, Pewsey, Wilts SN9
SDR. SOMERVILLE MAN FETTER.

5DR.
STAIRBIRY - Fireda beloved wife of Philip, adered mother of Mariena, Penny, and Anthony and much loved mother-in-hway grandmother, and great-grandmother possed away peocefully at the King Edward VII Hospital London on Thursday Jameary 6th. The funeral has already taken place.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

STEWART - Margaret, on 7th January 1999 after a short - filness. Beloved wife of the late Major Richard (Dick) - Stewart. The Berder Regiment and Senior Assistant Servery of the Law Society, Much loved mother of January Peter and the late Hugh. A devoted grandmother and great-grandmother. Pumeral, Friday 15th January in Harrogate. Flowers welcome. Enquiries to Swainsons. 01423 504571.

Swainsons. 01423 504571.

TARRANT - Evelyn after
years of sufficing aged 96.
Once on the staff of
Chettanham Ladies
College and 52 Pauls Girls
School, London, Funeral
service on Thurnday 21st
January at St. Margarets
Church, Bexted at 2.30
pm. Flowers and esquiries
to Cooper & Son, 11 New
Town, Unifiled tel: 01825
763763.

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TORRANCE - Bob, Physiologist and Emeritus Fellow of St John's College, Oxford, died peacefully in hospital 8th. January 1999, Loved by his wife Margaret and sons Mark and Paul. Funeral at Wolver toote Campetery, Oxford on Friday 18th. January at 11.00 am. No Howers please, but donations if desired to Barnardor's, Tamers Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IGG 1QG.

Barkingside, liford, Essex
IGS 10C.
TRAE. - Berll A J Trail
pescefully on 9th January
aged 75 years.
VALUELLAND - Dan on
2nd January 1999 - Dan on
2nd January 1999, at
2009m,
All Irlends, relatives and
colleagues are invited to
attent. Further
information from William
Purves Fomeral Directors
(Tel: 0131 447 5558).
WESON - Six Reginald. The

(Tet: 0131 447 5058).
WR.SON - Sir Reginald. The
Funeral Sarvice previously
aunounced for 11.30em on
Saturday lanuary 15th at
Colders Green.
Crematorium, will now
take place at St. Columbas
Church of Scotland, Port
Stress SW7, st 11.00em on
Wedneeday 20th lanuary
followed by a private
crematorium at Mortlake
Crematorium.
WH. Dr. Mort Manu Lee.

Crematorium.
YU- Dr. Mark Mang Lem
passed away peacefully on
Yth January 1999 will be
sadly missed by his wife
May Ying, some.
Dominique and Siao Hong,
grandchildren Nahame
and Sanjay and Joving
family as by his friends,
students and patients.
Service 13th January
2.00pn at Manor Park

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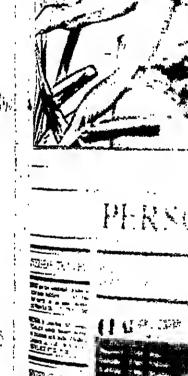
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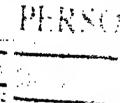
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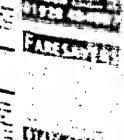
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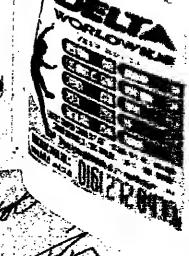




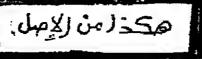












OBITUARIES

COLONEL ANTHONY SIMONDS

Colonel Anthony Simonds. OBE. MI9 officer, died on January 7 aged 89. He was born on November 21, 1909.

nthony Simonds, who served under Orde Wingate in Palestine and Ethiopia, later did his. best to repair one of the stupidest British blunders of the Second World War and organised the rescue of hundreds of prisoners of war in Italy. He was mentioned seven times in dispatches and Wingate put him up for a DSO for what he did in Ethiopia. But Wingate had enemies in GHQ Cairo, and Simonds was not the Cairo, and Simonds was not the only member of his team not to get the recognition he deserved.

By the summer of 1943, when Mussolini was deposed, Simonds was a lieutenant-colonel in com-mand of the Balkans and Middle East section of MI9, the secret escape and evasion service. Behind barbed wire in various Italian camps were almost 80,000 Allied prisoners, the majority British and Commonwealth soldiers captured by Axis forces in North Africa. When Marshal Badoglio formally surrendered on September 8, five days after the British had landed in the toe of Italy, their guards simply

walked away. This should have been the cue for hundreds of escape parties to make their way towards the Allied lines. Instead, in most of the camps the senior British officers ordered the PoWs to stay put and await rescue. They did this because they had been told to do so by M19's headquarters in London in coded messages picked up on the camps'

clandestine radios. The historian and former intelligence officer M. R. D. Foot has suggested that MI9 was doing the bidding of the tidy-minded Montgomery, who did not want his battlefield cluttered up with ragged bands of escapers.

A few thousand insubordinate souls guessed that the Germans were likely to get to them much faster than the Allies and botted. Some dithered and still got away. Among the luckier ones was a Captain Balfour of the Scots Guards, an officer privy to the secret MI9 order, who at the last moment hid on a rafter while the Wehrmacht emptied the rest of his camp into trains for Germany. Balfour got to the little Adriatic

port of Termoli, the Eighth Army's most forward position, where Simonds had set up the vanguard of his prisoner rescue operation. For the first time Simonds heard about the astonishing MI9 order from London and realised he would have to act quickly before the Germans rounded all the prisoners up. Under his command he had what must have been one of the

most heterogeneous units the Allies ever put into the field. There were three Italian Navy motor launches whose crews had only recently been exchanging shots with the Royal Navy. 13 Italian fishing boats with mixed RN and Italian crews, two squadrons of SAS, one of them Free French, a company of British paratroopers and a contingent of first generation Italian-Americans on loan from the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA.

His officers included an amateur jockey who had won the Grand National, a London stockbroker, a newspaper illustrator, a Twining tea taster, a French Communist who had fought Franco, the former Polish Ambassador to Rome, the Prince of Calabria, the son of the Governor-General of the Sudan, a couple of Etonians and a jazz-loving

Harvard professor.
Simonds's tactics were simple. Teams of parachutists were dropped near the known sites of PoW camps. They shepherded escapers to the coast. In case they missed the rendezvous or were chased away by German patrols, the SAS parties taught the escapers recognition signals to make out to sea Night after night Simonds would

crawl along the coast in one of his vessels, searching for waifs and strays. Sometimes boats were hired into traps and blown to pieces. One night Simonds spotted some lights that were too faint and irregular to make out whether they were the right signal. His vessel went as close inshore as it dared and lowered Simonds and three others in a small boat. On the beach were a bunch of men who shouted they were British. "Identify yourselves by whistling The British Grenadiers," demanded Simonds. A faint but recognisable rendering came back. It turned out to be an exhausted party of 15 escapers who for the second successive night were making their feeble signals with a candle.

Sometimes Simonds ventured further inland. Once he helped capture a German officer who had been persuaded by one of his Italian-Americans that they were black marketeers with whisky. "Not a correct M19 operation," Simonds noted in in his unpub-



هري المن الميمل

Simonds in Ethiopia in 1941 as part of Wingate's Gideon Force

lished memoirs, but great fun!"
Anthony Charles Simonds, the
son of an officer killed on the Somme, came from an old and wealthy Berkshire family with interests in banking and brewing. He was educated at Wellington College and in 1931 was commis-sioned into the Royal Berkshire During the Arab uprising in

Regiment. He was much admired for his boxing skills and reached the army championships four

times at featherweight. His other talents were perhaps more in keeping with his passion for chess, for he soon showed an

Palestine in the late 1930s he worked at GHQ Jerusalem and sometimes fed tip-offs to Wingate's Special Night Squads which result-ed in deadly amoushes. Complaints from senior officers' wives that young Captain Simonds kept a permanent female companion in his bungalow were dismissed by his immediate superiors on the ground that this "moral turpitude"

might be essential to his duties. In November 1940 he was at Wavell's headquarters in Cairo when Wingate asked him if he would parachute into Italian-occupied Ethiopia, where the British were giving Haile Selassie's guerrillas the little military assistance they could then spare. Simonds, who never made any secret of his fear of parachuting, said he would rather walk, and trekked most of the way from the Sudanese border to the source of the Blue Nile.

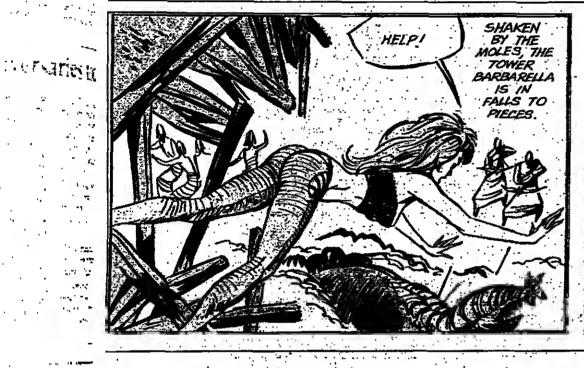
For the next six months, with shoulder length-hair and a beard down to his chest, Simonds led a barefoot column of Ethiopians. As part of Wingate's Gideon Force he helped to tie down thousands of Italian troops while conventional British forces attacked from Sudan and Kenya. Woefully equipped by indifferent staff offices in Khartourn, he improvised brilliantly. He convinced the enemy that cigarette tins were landmines, organised the repair of an old muzzle-loading cannon to fire round shot, and turned back an Italian surprise attack by using a flare pistol to transform some dry scrub into a wall of fire. When, towards the end of the campaign, he was ordered, protesting, back to Cairo, the paymaster's department insisted that he was not entitled to field

service allowance, since he had not been in the field at all but merely

"behind enemy lines". From September 1941 until the end of the war he was in charge of all escape and rescue operations in the Balkans. Although Turkey was officially neutral he ran a fleet of armed calques into the Aegean islands from a port near lzmir. Shortly before the German surren-der he was almost killed while flying to Turkey from Cyprus when a German fighter from occupied Rhodes attacked the unarmed RAF transport he was in. To shake off the fighter the pilot, who like all the aircrew had an oxygen mask, took his unpressurised plane as high as he could. Simonds passed out. In 1952 he left the Army and

became a flower-grower in Cyprus where, in 1943, he had married his first wife, Eirwen Llewelyn Jones, with whom be had two daughters before they were divorced in 1969. Simonds remained on the island throughout the 1955-59 Eoka rebellion. But when the Turks invaded Cyprus in 1974 his home in Kyrenia was destroyed. Evacuated by the Royal Navy, he later returned to the island and, with his second wife, Barbara Ayre, set up home in the village of Ayia Anna. In aid of Anglican church funds he ran a secondhand bookshop in the grounds of St Paul's in Nicosia and was often to be seen sitting outside it wearing a Panama hat and a Special Forces Club tie. In 1997, suffering from the onset of Alzheimer's disease, he moved back to Britain.

He is survived by his second wife Barbara and the two daughters from his previous marriage.



JEAN-CLAUDE FOREST

Jean-Claude Forest, French cartoonist, died on December 30 aged 68. He was born on September 30, 1930.

THOUGH he created many cartoon characters, Jean-Claude Forest is best known for Barbarella, his sex-mad Sixties' spacegirl. In Forest's farrage of amiable nonsense, the semblance of scientific exactitude which had been the feature of previous space strips went out of the window. Not for Barbarella the observation of those conventional laws which had characterised America's Buck Rogers and Britain's Dan Dare - a knowledge of different gravity fields, a wary care for hostile atmospheres and a need to-

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PUBLIC NOTICES

cope with strange space lan-guages. Capering around the universe without space helmet or suit, chattering away to all and sundry in galactic Esperanto and wearing little more than the skin she was born in, she seemed quite immune to such apprehensions.

Like one of the apsaras of Hindu mythology, those di-vine nymphs who roam the floors of heaven, coupling at will with the embodied souls of the righteous, Barbarella. too, seemed to regard it as her mission to bestow herself generously upon any man (or, for that matter, robot) in whom she found signs of virue. True, there was more than a

bint of S&M in Forest's creation (which was magnified in Roger Vadim's film version). one scene a revolting machine threatens the heroine with death by orgasm. And in another, hostile steel-jawed dolls sink their teeth into her fair flesh, causing the blood to flow over her scanty lingerie. But unlike that other accidentprone strip cartoon character Modesty Blaise, Barbarella never had to exert any ingenuity to get out of a scrape. A hop, a skip, a sigh or a flash of her irresistible assets to dazzle and confuse the enemy, and she . was out of one tight corner generally soon to find herself in another.

Jean-Claude Forest had his

artistic training at the Ecole des Arts et des Métiers, Paris. While still a student, he worked on his first cartoon strip, a visual adaptation of R. L. Stevenson's Wars of the Roses novel, The Black Arrow. In his early twenties he worked on Vaillant, a weekly

comic for boys, producing several fantasy strips and so making himself a reputation. By 1959, he was drawing a comic strip for France-Soir But it was Barbarella, first created in 1962 for the magazine V, that made his reputation. The strip, with its soft porn heroine - whose motto in life seemed to be "If it moves, proposition it - became hugely popular among adolescents and young men, who liked her propensity for shedding what little clothing she wore whenever she exerted herself. In 1964 a series of the strips was published as a book and a few years later there was an English language version.

But although, in general, France prided itself on having shown the Anglo-Saxon world how to get sex into space with style, the authorities had a sudden réflexion bourgeoise about their country being once again styled the publishing centre pornographique. There was a futile attempt to ban the book, but the genie was too far out of the bottle.

The enfant terrible of "starkers" cinema, Roger Vadim, who had made his reputation by putting on the screen the undraped splendours of his wife Brigitte Bardot in his first film, Et...Dieu créa la Femme (1956), now had Barbarella in his sights. Already divorced from Bardot (and, after her, Annette Stroyberg), he was now on his third wife, Jane Fonda, who fjust as Bardot would have been — Et. Dieu was pretty much a Barbarella of the beaches) was a perfect vehicle for the Forest idea.

With her naturally agree-able contours little disguised by clothing, the third Mme Vadim was soon capering around the set of Barbarella, molested (and as frequently doing the molesting herself) by a host of monsters, misfits, machines and the occasional angel. The results of these absurd antics, lovingly photographed by Claude Renoir, went on general release in 1968.

Fonda, a product of the Actors' Studio in New York, was really far too intelligent for the Vadim sex goddess treatment, and she later moved on to better things (and two other marriages). But for the moment her unimpeachable physical credentials carried her through. The result, a sex fantasy firmly rooted in its era, is nevertheless still watchable. Its success owed a good deal to Forest himself, who supervised the set design for Vadim, and made some of his more outlandish cartoon notions work on screen.

Having soared to success on a wave of girlie sex, Forest stuck with the genre. He became editor of a new adult magazine Chouchou, for which he created the strip Baby Cyanide, and created another nubile female protagonist for French television. But he was never again to achieve the eclat of Barbarella. He is survived by his wife Petra, and by a son.

PROFESSOR TAD RYBCZYNSKI

Professor Tadeus Rybezynski, economist, died on December 18 aged 75. He was born on May 21, 1923.

TAD RYBCZYNSKI made lasting contributions both to economic theory and to an understanding of financial in-stitutions and markets, and was also a selflessly active member of an astonishing number of professional bodies, at least one of which he founded. His achievements are yet another example of the contribution made by immigrants to Brit-ain's professional life. Tadeus Micczyslaw Rybo-

zynski was born in Lvov in the Ukraine. He came to Britain in 1942 via the Soviet Union and the Middle East and enlisted in the RAF, becoming a bomber pilot. In 1949 be joined Lloyds Bank, while also studying at the London School of Economics as an external student, obtaining first a BCom and then, in 1952, an MSc degree. Out of the latter came a seminal article on the theory of international trade, known ever since as the Rybczynski theorem, which analysed the effects of a shift in the distribution of economic

In 1954 he joined Lazard Brothers, then one of the few merchant banks to employ economists, and before long he was head of its economic research department. In 1969 he was made a director of Lazard Securities, the fund management arm of the bank. After retiring from this in 1986 he retained a role as economic adviser to Lazard Brothers for a further two years. It is almost impossible to

think of a professional body in the field of applied economics in Britain in which Rybczyn-ski did not play an influential role, even while he was still with Lazards. He was chairman of the Society of Business Economists between 1963 and 1975, and in 1968 was elected to the council of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and to that of the Institute of Fiscal Studies. for both of which his investment judgment proved particularly fruitful.

He served on the Monopolies and Mergers Commission between 1978 and 1981. In the early 1970s he founded the City

Monetary Group, which still meets regularly to discuss monetary and other economic questions. At various times he also served on the council or governing body of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the Royal Economic Society, the Trade Policy Research Centre and the Economic Research Council.

His international outlook was evidenced in his membership of the committee of the Foreign Affairs Club and of the science committee of the Cen-tre for Monetary and Banking Studies at the University of Geneva. In 1980 he received the Abramson Award of the National Association of Business Economists in the United States, and in 1983 he was the recipient of the Harms Award from the University of Kiel.



His university activities were notable. He served on the court of Brunel University between 1976 and 1979 and was a visiting professor at the University of Surrey between 1968 and 1974. He then became a visiting professor at the City University, where he was also awarded an honorary DSc in 1990. His writings were numerous, spanning monetary and banking problems, international finance and taxation.

His unbounded energy was not, as is often the case, accompanied by any desire to dominate or by any hint of vanity. He was a modest and gentle persuader whose scepticism about dogma never degenerated into mere cynicism. He was always ready to encourage the young and inspired affection as well as respect.
Tad Rybczynski leaves his

widow Helena, whom he married in 1951, and a daughter.

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FAITH IN ALLIED CAUSE

... At the beginning of 1940 de Lattre assumed command of the 14th Division. This formation fought with great determination at Rethel, and he kept it well in hand in the subsequent retreat and rearguard actions. A brief period of service in France under the Vicby regime followed; but the atmosphere was little to his liking and he was happy to be appointed to the command of the forces in Tunisia in 1941. From this post he was, however, recalled in January of the following year, on the basis of well-founded suspicion of sympathy for the Allied cause, and given the com-mand of a division at Montpellier.

When the Allies landed in North Africa in November of that year he foresaw that the Germans would enter unoccupied France. In the hope that an Allied landing in southern France would follow he strove to establish a bridgehead near Cetter but his handful of men was overrun and he was

ON THIS DAY

January 12, 1952 经是国际创始

The obituary of General de Lattre de Tassigny paid tribute to the way this distinguished soldier and statesman's faith in the Allied cause did much to restore pride to the French army.

condemned to ten years' imprisonment. On September 3, 1943, de Lattre broke out of his fourth prison, that of Riom, with the aid of his wife and son. In the early hours of October 18 an aircraft of the RAF picked him up near Macon and carried him to England. Reaching Algiers in late December, he received from General Giraud command of the Second Army, later Army B, which he had to organize from the bottom up, in

military obstacles. His first operation was the liberation of Elba. On August 15 he landed on the French Riviera, and the capture of Toulon and Marseilles was

swiftly carried out. After a rapid pursuit of the retreating Germans up the valleys of the Rhône and Saône during the first half of September, Army B established touch with the "Overlord" armies on the plateau of Langres and from approximately this time became known as the First French Army. Its next great feat was the breaching of the "Gap of Belfort" in mid-November snowstorms.

After the German Ardennes offensive the First French Army, reinforced by the United States XXI Corps, cleared the "Colmar Pocket", captured 20,000 prisoners and almost annihilated the 19th German Army. In March it broke through the Siegfried Line and crossed the Rhine north of Karlsruhe. Then came its sweep to the Danube and thrusts southward into Tirol, a magnificent revenge. On May 8 de Lattre signed on behalf of France the Reich's act of face of considerable political as well as capitulation in Berlin . . .

Court must end tenancy

Manchester City Council v Cochrane and Another Before Lord Justice Auld. Lord Justice Judge and Sir John Knox Budgment December 211

An introductory tenancy granted by a local authority under Part V of the Housing Act 1996 for one year without security of tenure entitled the council to apply for a posses-sion order if the tenants or their visitors caused a nuisance.

The county court was obliged to make an order for possession 90 long as the council complied with the statutory procedure in sections 127 and 128 of the Act.

The only challenge open to the tenant if an internal review upheld the council's decision, was an application to the High Court for judicial review of the decision, for which purpose the county court had power to grant an adjournment of the possession proceed-

ings, but not a stay. In contrast to Part VII of the Act which empowered the county court to exercise a judicial review jurisdiction in relation to homelessness cases, the county court had no similar jurisdiction to hear appeals by introductory tenants on points of

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing the appeal of Manchester City Council against the dismissal County Court of the council's appeal against the decision of District Judge Griffiths that the county court had jurisdiction to entertain defences by the introductory ten-ants, Mr Joseph Cochrane and Mrs Annette Cochrane, to the coun-Section 127 of the 1996 Act pro-

"(1) The landlord may only bring

an introductory tenancy to an end by obtaining an order of the court for the pos ession of the dwelling

"(2) The court shall make such an order unless the provisions of section L28 apply.

Section 128 provides: "(1) The court shall not entertain proceedings for the possession of a dwelling-house let under an introductory tenancy unless the landlord has served on the tenant a notice of proceedings complying with

Mr Andrew Arden, QC and Mr Jonathan Manning for the council: Mr Peter Buckley for the tenants.

SIR JOHN KNOX said that the appeal raised the question of the extion in dealing with possession actions in relation to introductory tenancies under Part V of the 1996 Act.

That part contained novel provisions for housing authorities to elect to operate an introductory ten-ancy scheme whereby new tenants would have a probationary one-year period before becoming secure tenants. Manchester City Council made such an election.

On April 15, 1997 the council anted Mr and Mrs Cochrane a joint weekly tenancy of a property in Burnage, Manchester. The tenancy was expressed to be an introwhen Mr and Mrs Cochrane were to become secure tenants. Clause 1.9 of the tenancy agree-

ment stated, inter alia: "The council can take possession of your home __ Because of your own action or the action of someone living with you or visiting you: You, or they, must have broken a rule in this tenancy agreement or

When time runs

Roberts v Winbow

Time started to run for limitation purposes from the date when the aintiff knew that a lesser part of ber injuries was attributable to the discovered that the greater part was also so attributable

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roch and Mrs Justice Hale) so stated on December 4 on an appeal by the defendant. Dr Adrian John Winhow, against the decision of Judge Brandt on February 21, 1998 at Colchester County Court that the claim of the plaintiff, Linda Anne Roberts, for medical negligence had commenced outside the limitation period. The court exercised its discretion to disapply sec-tion 11(4) of the Limitation Act 1980 and allowed the action to proceed to trial.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH said that the case raised a new question in a medical negligence case.

If a plaintiff suffered injuries

some of which she knew to be attributable to the act or omission of the defendant which was alleged to constitute negligence, but the main part of which was not to the plaintiff's knowledge attributable in whole or in part to the act or omission of the defendant which was alleged to constitute negligence, did the three-year period commence when the plaintiff had knowledge that the lesser part of the injury was attributable, or did the period start only when the plaintiff had knowledge that the greater part of the injury was attributable?

His Lordship accepted that the limitation period started to run from the earlier of those two dates.

Clause 4 set out the tenant's responsibilities, including requirements not to cause a pulsance, anpoyance or disturbance to any othperson and not to inflict or eaten domestic violence.

The council served a notice dated March 9, 1998 to terminate the introductory tenancy, alleging breaches of the tenancy agreement. All the requirements in section 128(1) to (7) were complied with and the validity of the notice was not

The tenants requested a review. In April 1, 1998 an oral review was held. The tenants claimed that it was not conducted in accordance with the Introductory Tenants (Review) Regulations (\$1 1997 No 72). There had been no investigation of the truth of those allegations.

After the oral review the council confirmed their decision to termi-nate the tenancy and issued proceedings for possession of the prop-

erty on April 9, 1998.

Before District Judge Griffiths on June 9, 1998 an objection was de by the council to the jurisdic tion of the county court to hear the defence the tenants wished to ad-vance. The district judge, taking the view that the court had jurisdic-

tion, gave directions.

A defence was filed denying the breaches of the tenants' agreement and alleging failures to comply with the regulations and a denial of natural justice in the conduct of the review. An appeal was dis-missed by Judge Howarth on June 18, from which the present appeal

In his Lordship's view the ap-peal should be allowed for three

First, the private law right of the tenants under an introductory ten-ancy was no more than a right to possession until an order for pos-session in favour of the landlord ade by the court, and such order had to be made once the requirements of section 128 regarding the notice of proceedings had been complied with.

Parliament, by enacting section 127(2) in mandatory terms clearly imposed a statutory limitation on the right of an introductory tenant to retain possession.

Indeed there was a remarkable constriction of the court's powers that, on the one hand, under section 128(1) the court was prohibited from even entertaining possession proceedings unless the various rerements of section 128 were satisfied, while on the other hand, if the requirements of section 128 were satisfied, the court was positively required to make a possession order under section 127(2).

analysis. The court had no discretion in the matter at all. The council's duty to comply with section 129(2) in conducting a

review was subject to judicial re-

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view. The county court had to have at least jurisdiction to grant an adjournment if satisfied that there was a real charace of leave to apply for judicial review being granted. That was the view of Lord Donaldson. Master of the Rolls, in Avon County Council v Buscott (1988)

OB 656). It would be a clear contravention of the mandatory terms of section 127(2) for the county court to en-tertain a defence based on a denial of allegations of breaches of a tenancy agreement relied on in the notice under section 178

Similarly it would not be proper for a county court to grant a stay of possession proceedings on the ap-plication of a tenant alleging fail-ure by the landlord to observe the des of natural justice.

The general prohibition in sec-tion 38(3) of the County Court Act 1984 operated as a ban on any county court reviewing the failure to ex-ercise a public duty unless there vas parliamentary authority for it

That conclusion was supported by the second reason, which was e contrast between section 2040) of the 1996 Act conferring jurisdic tion upon the county court to de-cide any point of law in relation to housing authority reviews under section 202(1) regarding homelessness on the one hand, and section 127(2) which conferred a very much nar-rower jurisdiction relating to re-views of decisions to take proceed-ings to evice introductory tenants

The third reason was procedural. If the county court had jurisdic-tion to entertain a defence based on the invalidity of the housing authority's review, the result would probably be that the tenant would become a secure tenant. Clearly that was not a desirable result, nor

one which Parliament intended. No such result would follow if the county court only granted an adjournment of the possession pro-ceedings to enable judicial review proceedings to be taken by the sen-

His Lordship considered it reprettable that Parliament should have given only such minimal powers to the county court by section 138(1) of the Act. That sat ill with Part VII which conferred upon the county court powers wide enough to include public law defences in connection with proceedings under the Housing Acts. As the Act stood, since the validity of the notice under section 128 was not challenged the tenants' defence should be

Lord Justice Judge delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Jus-tice Auld agreed.

Solicitors: Ms Susan Orrell, Manchester; Clifford Chapman & Co. Manchester.

tor of Euroair, a Portuguese compa-ny in liquidation. Before the liqui-Companhia Europeia de Transportes Aeros SA v Britdation Dr Lopes beld over 60 per ish Aerospace plc and Anoth-

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Tuckey

Judgment December 21] The court would not make an order that would have the effect of al-lowing a third party to intervene to a dead action so as to make himself a party in order to resuscitate a dead claim and avoid a limitation

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff company, Companina Europeia de Transportes Aeros SA (Euroair). from the refusal by Mr Justice Longmore to extend time to allow its writ claiming damages for, inter alia, alleged breach of contract against the defendants, British Aerospace pic and CIBC Finance pic, to be amended so as to add a third party. Dr Lopes, as a plaintiff in

Mr Peter Goldsmith, OC and Mr Andrew Lydiard for Dr Lopes; Mr Mark Howard, QC and Mr David Garland for British Aerosnace: CIBC Finance did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE TUCKEY said

cent of the company's shares. The action arose out of the acquisition of three aircraft manufactured by British Aerospace in 1993 just after Euroair went into liquidation. From 1994 the parties

were locked in battle over security An order made to January 1996

for security against Euroair was not complied with. In April Dr Lopes took an assignment of all Eu-rosit claims against the defend-ants and Europi applied to amend the writ to add Dr Lopes as a plain-However, in May 1996 an unless order was made against them that

they provide security within 14 days and their application to allow Dr Lopes to join the action to pursue Euroair's contractual claims re-Euroairs appeal against those orders was dismissed and they were given until November 4, 1997

to provide the security ordered. Within the same time Euroair had to amend the writ to add Dr Lopes as plaintiff; see Order 20, rule 9 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

the unless order. That application prompted Dr Lopes to apply for an order for

missed for failure to comply with

leave to extend time for the amendment to the writ, alternatively for an order substituting himself as plaintiff and giving him leave to continue the action under Order 15.

Third party cannot revive claim

It was those applications that had come before Mr Justice Longmore who held that it was too late for Dr Lones to be added as plaintiff since the action stood dismissed on November 4 because of Euroair's non-compliance with the unless order. Unless it could be revived there was no action to which Dr Lopes could be joined.

The judge recognised that the court did have jurisdiction to revive the action but said that it would be unthinkable to exercise it in the present case unless Euroan were now to provide the security which had been ordered and which they were obviously not go-

When Euroair failed to provide security on November 4 the action stood dismissed. They had the right to try to revive it by seeking an extension of time to provide security but had chosen not to do so.

So the action was to remain dismissed with no prospect of it being revived. Dr Lopes's position therefore at the time when the judge, heard his application was that he was asking for an extension of time or an order for substitution to join himself into an action which stood dismissed and had no prospect of being revived. Mr Justice Longmore held that

Dr Lopes "was in insuperable diffi-culties if he was unable to procure [Euroair] to provide at this late hour security for costs. He had not been able to so procure and it was therefore unthinkable that the court would exercise its jurisdiction to regulate the consequences of dismissal".

The judge was correct. In that passage he recognised that he had a residual discretion to revive the action if security was provided, but as it was not going to be he would not allow Dr Lopes to join the action. Whether strictly that was a mer of jurisdiction or discretion did not matter.

The judge obviously made the right decision. Otherwise the effect of allowing Dr Lopes to join the action would enable him to get round. the unless order altogether to pursue a claim in the right of the defauleng party.

· Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Judge agreed.

Solicitors: Howard Kennedy:

No pre-action discovery against insurers

Burns v Shuttlehurst Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Stuart- Smith. Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Jus-

tice Mummery [Judgment December 21]

A claim for an indemnity under a contract of insurance, of which the plaintiff in a personal injury action was the statutory assignee, was not "a claim for damages for personal tojuries" or "in respect of personal injuries" so as to empower the court to make an order for pre-action discovery against the insurers under section 33(2) of the Supreme

Court Act 1981. reserved judgment, allowing an ap-peal by General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Comments The Court of Appeal so held in a from the order of Mr Justice Steel on April 24, 1998, in which he allowed an appeal by the plainiff, Thomas Stephen Burns, against District Judge Cole's refusal of his application for, inter alia, pre-ac-tion discovery against General Ac-

The plaintiff sued, inter alia, his employers, Shuttlehurst Ltd., for damages for personal injuries and obtained judgment with damages to be assessed. By then the employ-ers were in liquidation and there were no assets to meet the claim. The employers' insurers, General Accident, refused to indemnify

Mr Robert Mozon-Browne, QC and Mr Charles Dougherty for General Accident, Mr John Foy, QC and Mr Simon Carr for the

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the court's jurisdiction to make an order for pre-action discovery was in section 33 of the 1981 Act which provided: "(2) On the application in accord-

ance with rules of the court, of a person who appears to the High Court to be likely to be a party to subsequent proceedings in that court in which a claim in respect of personal injuries to a person, or to respect of a person's death, is likely to be made, the High Court shall, in such circumstances as may be specified in the rules, have power. to order a person who appears to the court to be likely to be a party to the proceedings and to be likely dy or power any documents which are relevant to an issue arising or likely to arise out of that claim (a to disclose whether those docu-ments are in his possession, custoThe relevant rule was Order 24, rule 7A of the Rules of the Supreme

Court. By rule 7A(7) "a claim for personal injuries" meant "a claim in respect of personal injuries to a person or in respect of a person's death". The proposed claim against Gen-

eral Accident was based on the Third Parties (Rights Against In-surers) Act 1930: The term "claim for personal in-juries" was shorthand for "claim for damages for personal injuries".

As a matter of construction, there-fore, a claim to be indemnified by the insurers under the 1930 Act was not a claim for damages in respect of personal injuries.

His Lordship said the same meaning ought to be given to the expression "claim in respect of personal injuries to a person" in section 33(2) of the 1981 Act as was given en to damages claimed by the plaintiff ... consist of or include damages in respect of personal in-juries in section 11 of the Limitation Act 1980. That was because in each case it was a claim for damage es in respect of personal injuries.

A claim for an indemnity under a contract of insurance, of which the plaintiff was the statutory assignee, was not a claim for damag-

of personal injury, even though the quantum of the indemnity claimed was calculated by reference to the

Nor, until the plaintiff's claim had been quantified; could it be said that a claim against General Accident was likely: It was quite clear that if and when the claim was quantified the documents would be discoverable: see section 2 of the 1930 Act.

Accordingly, the application for pre-action discovery failed. Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Mummery agreed. Solicitors: Wanshoughs Willey

Corrections

Hargrave: Thompsons, Birming-

In Pro Sieben Media AG v Carlton-UK Television Ltd (The Times January 7) the solicious for Pro Sieben were Denton Hall.

In McDonald v FIFA The Times January 7) the judge was Mr Robin McEwan, QC.

In R v Hereford Magistrates Court. Ex parte MacRae (The Times December 15) junior counsel Cragg.



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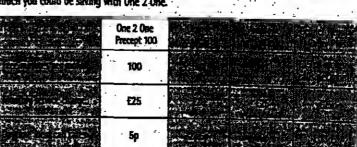
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More career women are leaving employment to set up on their own, says Jon Ashworth

Leap in dark promises bright future

very year in Britain, more than 150,000 women take a deep breath and leap into the uncharted waters of running their own business. Some sail along with ease while others struggle just to keep up with the current. But dannting as it is, few will regret taking

the plunge.
More and more career worden are trading the inflexibility of the office for the challenge and freedom of running their own show. It often holds a particular appeal for women at a particular stage of their career, typically in their mid-tolate-thirties and early forties. when they feel they have gone as far as they can within the corporate structure. Either they have come up against the glass ceiling, or have grown frustrated juggling work and

family commitments. Many aspire to the success of Anita Roddick, who started Body Shop with her husband, Gordon, with a single shop in Brighton in 1976. When it came to the stock market eight years later, the company was worth £8 million, making Rod-dick an "instant" £1.5 million. Body Shop is no longer the novelty it once was, but remains one of Britain's most famous exports, with 1,600

stores in 47 countries. Ms Roddick was no different to any other small entrepreneur when she called on her bank manager, seeking to bor-row £4,000. She recalls: "I went to the bank and did everything wrong. I took my kids, I wore. jeans, I was wearing a Bob Dylan T-sbirt . . . I came back with Gordon a week later; he had profit-and-loss sheets, looked respectable, and suddenly we

were taken seriously." Ms Roddick says she is aware of many more women leaving big corporations to set up on their own. They have grown tired of the patriarchal culture and crave the flexibility that comes with being your own boss. Women are better networkers than men - they are notfrightened to ask questions -

and tend to be more innovative: Companies are increasingly looking to outsource the supply of goods and services, making this a good time to go it alone. "Any woman can set up a small satellite business to do things that big business can't do." Ms-Roddick observes. "It's a very exciting time for them."

She adds: "My advice would





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Aurelia Cecil, left, set up her public relations firm at the age of 23, while Anita Roddick started Body Shop with a £4,000 loan from her bank manager

be: don't think big, think brilliant, think different. Once you get too big, your original ideas and creativity gets lost. When setting up, you should look to go in the opposite direction. We just ran in the opposite direction to what the cosmetics industry was doing. Once you have found one or two things which are different to the com-

petition, shout it from the

Another role model is Aureha Cecil, sometime consort of the Duke of York, who set up Aurelia Public Relations with a £7,000 small business loan when she was 23. Abbott. Mead Vickers, the advertising group, bought the company last year for up to £4.25 million (depending on hitting growth targets) but Aurelia, 31, remains at the helm. "It's very important that you be-lieve in yourself," she says. "I remember, when I was young, a few people thought this is: never going to work. It's like sports people. When they're

training at five o'clock in the

morning, they're dreaming of that gold medal. You have to work unbelievably hard: seven days a week, 8am 'til lipm." Caroline Turner, 35, set up Hyperactive Publicity after more than a decade climbing. the corporate ladder. She spent years on the road with rock bands such as INXS while working for Laister

Dickson, an entertainment publicity company, then worked for a year as director of European publicity for Warner Films, based in Soho. She says: "It was then that I realised I wasn't a big company person at all."

Ms Turner set up Hyperactive in just eight days after she was approached to handle publicity for the Three Tenors concert. "I would never, ever, work again for a big corporation because so much time is spent on politics and fitting in to the company mode. There is so much more you could do in the job if you were allowed to get on and do what you most. want to do."

She adds: "People who should be promoted are. passed over for jobs because they don't play the political game, which is why a lot of women are setting up on their own. A big corporation has already got its own culture, and it's very difficult to leave your

stamp on it." s Turner says can be all-consuming but does not regret the move. "It's the most risky. the most scary, the most frightening, but also the most exhila-

rating thing that I have done." Helena Conibear left her job as a Bath-based regional manager with Mentzendorff, importers of Bollinger champagne, and now works from bome in rural Somerset running various wine-related projects. She resumed working full-time after the birth of =formed by women, according her first baby, Charlotte, but found that her perceptions had changed.

Ms Conibear says: "The great benefit of being self-employed is the flexibility — being able to take a month off in August if you want to — and the variety: it's much more stimulating. It needs much greater discipline, but you are your own boss."

She had progressed as far as she could within Mentzendorff without compromising her family life. "There was no way I could go up without going to London." Her husband, Simon, has a successful career of his own, making the leap in the dark somewhat less daunting, "I found it a terrible shock to start with: losing the pension, the company car, the credit cards, all the eating out . . . I'd hate to be the main breadwinner. It would be more stressful if you didn't have a

second income coming in."

About a third of companies set up in Britain last year were to Barclays Bank. Only 18 per cent of women in business are under 35, while 40 per cent fall

into the 35 to 44 age group,

and 42 per cent are over 45. Perhaps, not surprisingly. two thirds of businesses run from home are run by women. Benefits include flexible working hours and practices, being your own boss, reduced travelling time and improved quality of life. Being able to look after the children is another important consideration. Barclays expects advances in technology to swell the numbers

even further. Peter Oatley, manager of small business banking at Bar-clays, says: "Women in general are very positive about the role they're playing in the business community and draw strength from the successful female entrepreneurs such as Anita Roddick, who have made it from very humble beginnings. Career women feel more confident and find it easier to set up on their own."

Mr Oatley's advice to those contemplating this route is to do your research - make sure there is a market for your product — and set out your objec-tives in a clear business plan. tonight at 6pm. Anita Saldanha, a Londonbased Lloyds TSB business banking manager, says re-search is all-important: "It may be a brilliant product, but if there is no market, there's no point. Women tend

pared, and are quite happy to sit and listen." Studies by Lloyds TSB suggest that women are often fi nancially shrewder than men. and tend to be more structured and long-term in their approach. However, stamina is called for. Ms Saldanha says: "The first thing is to treat the business as something that will take up quite a lot of their working hours. It's

to be confident and do a lot of

research. They come well pre-

who would agree is Meriel Spencer, 55, who supplies specialist equipment to BT and cable television companies from her home near Swindon. She spent most of her career as a full-time employee before setting up on her own nearly four

Ms Spencer says: "I thought, if I don't do it now, I never will, but I wish I'd done it 20 years ago, when I had more energy. I love what I do, but it's very hard work in as much as I work some evenings until two o'clock in the morning. I've worked all night; l work weekends. It's home, and you can never get away from it. The phone might ring at lopm. I don't regret it at all, because I can look back and

say: I've done it." Mary Bonner, who set up her own catering company il years ago, says: "I'd say: do it, but it isn't easy. I've gone through some very difficult times, but my advice would be to just keep your eyes and ears open, because opportunities come along, and you must have the courage to just go

Ms Bonner says women are naturally cut out for the challenge. "Women are prepared to take a few more risks than men. I went through a divorce, had to keep the mortgage go-ing, feed the children ... Wom-en are able to do these things. A lot of people think it's very romantic to run your own business. It's not, but you do get a great sense of achievement."

Peter Kilfoyle, Minister for Public Service in the Cabi-net Office, will answer questions on better regulation and red tape live on the En-terprise Zone website at www.enterprisezone.org.uk

□ Nearly two thirds of small business owners expect to witness a downturn in trading over the next 18 months, according to the latest Small Business Bulletin from Barciays. This has prompted the majority of small firms to take steps to counteract the effects of the by increasing marketing activity and reducing costs.

☐ The number of organisations signing up to the Govern-ment-backed better payment practice code has reached 900. The list is on the Internet at

☐ Co-operative groups should be formed to build Internet knowledge among small businesses, the Assocication of Chartered Certified Accountants has recommended after a study showed little use of the Web. The findings are set out in UK Business and the Information Superhighway: The Impact of the Internet on SMEs, which is available free by call-

ing 0141-309 3999. ☐ Buying British is preferred by small and medium-sized businesses, which believe they will boost domestic employment in this way. A survey for Lloyds Bank, compiled by the Small Business Research Trust, shows that 45 per cent of businesses actively seek British goods and 12 per cent would

pay more to buy British.

☐ An audio tape advising small companies on improving productivity has been produced by Business Pages, the business-to-business directory. The tape, including tips from Professor Cary Cooper, a management expert, recommends motivating staff through profit-sharing and involving them in decision-making, and reducing stress by performing tasks in order of priority. Inquiries: 0117 982 2006.

☐ More people aged 50 and over are starting businesses, partly to maintain their standard of living in retirement, a Barclays Bank study has found. The over-50s proportion of the population has risen from 18 to 20 per cent lo six years and the number of businesses started by them is now 50,000 a year. The study revealed that a fifth of these entrepreneurs will stop working only when they die.

campaign links firms to India

BY BRIAN COLLETT

BUSINESS Link Thames Valley is putting up £2,400 to back a marketing campaign for a project to link small busi-nesses facing the millennium bug with computer experts in India.

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The remote method of millermium proofing computer software is being offered to small companies to overcome the shortage of informationtechnology specialists here. Lateral Connections, an em-

Lateral Connections, an employment agency in Bracknell, Berkshire, has found skilled IT people in India to do the bug-busting. The millennium-proofing companies have been vetted by British IT experts. Lateral Connections is offering to fly in teams if businesses prefer to have the work done on site.

Lateral Connections is re-

Lateral Connections is recruiting more bug-busters in Eastern Europe, mainly Ro-mania, Hungary, Ukraine

Nigel Wood, Lateral Connections' director, believes new so-lutions are needed because even the 20,000 specialists being trained with government money will not be sufficient.

Bug-busters in Britain are charging between £800 and £2,000 a day. Mr Wood said: "Even bringing in teams is cheaper than using IT people here. We will employ the teams, pay the market rate. and add a margin when bill-ing. This is still about half the price people are charging in

Bug-buster Dockyard site becomes home to IT sector

that conduct their operations Enterprise Council has alclectronically is being estabished in West Wales.

The listed buildings at Pembroke's Royal Dockyard are
being converted into Wales's scores to West Wales is crufirst interpretation technology.

first information technology park by the Welsh Develop ment Agency (WDA) and Pem-brokeshire County Council

The first company, Graphic Data, has moved in. It specialises in scanning and micro-filming documents, such as-technical drawings and plans, and it has created 12 jobs in the park. Three more businesses are considering following suit, including a company belonging to Nigel Cox, one of the park's instigators.

As managing diretor of Bookflow Limited he specialises in the provision of information services to libraries. But his intention for Pembroke is to attract a cluster of informa-tion technology businesses with mutually complementary technologies in the communications and electronic publish-

ing sectors.

He is convinced that, by sharing facilities and specialist equipment, companies

costs can be reduced. "To make this scheme a focus of European importance we need to create a substantial range of job opportunities."
Mr Cox said. This would justify investment in the development of necessary skills and intellectual interests."

A HOME for small businesses ... West Wales Training and

cial after the crisis in agriculture and the cutbacks in the oil industry. Information technology is particularly welcome as a job creator, according to Nick Amger, Labour MP for Pembroke, because it "overcomes the peripherality" that has plagued Pembrokeshire

for years.
The WDA also plans a programme to encourage the spinning out of more businesses from Welsh higher education. The long-term aim of the Top Spin programme is to build a cluster of high-tech companies to exploit research work at Welsh academic institutions and provide work for the 90,000 full-time students that attend them.

Business start-up support is likely to include interest-free loans of up to £25,000, access to market research, use of workspace and technical facilities at universities and consultancy. It is hoped that some funding will come from the European Regional Development Fund. One of the task force members is Dr Owen Jones, chairman of Agrisense, a company set up in 1984 as a spin-out 10 exploit biological technology developed partly at Cardiff. University.

State aid to boost electronic **business**

BY SALLY WATTS

AN EXTRA £20 million will help more small firms to take advantage of the opportunities provided by electronic commerce. By 2002, the Government aims to treble to one million the number of small businesses wired up to the digital marketplace. Measures will include removing legal barriers to on-line trading.
This extension of the Govern-

ment's Information Society Initiative is announced in the White Paper, Our Competitive Future: Building the Knowledge Driven Economy.
The White Paper also an-

nounces support for growing SMEs in English regions facing economic difficulty or high unemployment, such as coalmining areas, cities, coastal towns or countryside areas with a decline in traditional job opportunities. This support will come via the new re-

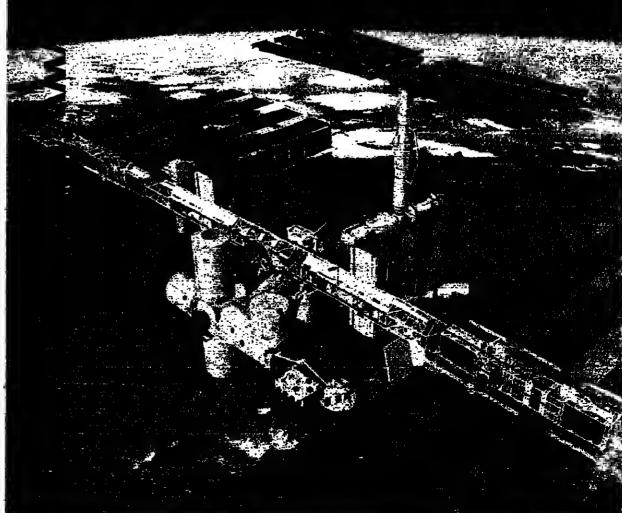
gional development agencies. Through a new £150 million Enterprise Fund, entrepreneurs will be helped to start and grow high-value businesses; the fund will build on the Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme and will stimulate venture capital for businesses with potential to grow.

A further incentive will be increased opportunities for small companies to collabo-rate with both large compa-nies and universities to develop ideas. In addition, new centres of expertise will be attached to Business Links to provide specialist services.

THE

news first

A unique resource from The Times website. Breaking ticker-tape news throughout the day from 7am to 10pm backed by bulletins and previews of tomorrow's offline and online editions



Access to e-mails queried

refuse to hand over informa-tion. Under proposed changes



Yes! It's a new epoch -

PLANS to restrict police access to e-mails has led to an alternative proposal that is even more intrusive, says Maclay Murray & Spens, a firm of so-licitors that claims to have the largest intellectual property department in Scotland (Bri-

an Collett writes). ing the police to monitor e-At present, the police need a mails without a warrant.

the police would still need a warrant, but would be licensed to use decoding software for en-crypted e-mails. To avoid this, the Internet providers are discussing an agreement allowwarrant to gain access to e . Claire McCartney, of Ma-mails if Internet providers clay Murray & Spens, said

businesses from using elec-tronic commerce, which is being promoted by the Europe-an Commission as the trading medium of the future. The law firm will approach

the Home Office with objections to any intrusion into confidential - e-mails when it knows whether the agreement or legislation is to go ahead.

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE



Red alert: Andy Cole slots the ball past Shaka Hislop for his second goal and Manchester United's third in their easy 4-1 win over a disappointing West Ham on Sunday

Revealed: why the Big Ron factor will sink Arsenal

n a fortnight's time The Times Fantasy League will be taking a week's break while the fourth-round FA Cup matches are played. On Tuesday January 24 we will publish player lists updated to include the Aston Villa v Everton game played on Monday January 18, but there will be no weekly prize or ON-Target numbers. Prizes will roll over to the following week.

If you are planning a transfer or two, it might be worth thinking about taking the unusual step of replacing any Arsenal defenders you may have in your side. Why?

Consider the following. On December 21, 1996 Arsenal led the FA Carling Premiership table when they visited the City Ground to play Nottingham Forest, the bottom team. However, Forest had just made a managerial change, replacing Frank Clark with Stuart Pearce. Inspired by the new boss. Forest triumphed 2-1.

We move on to November 22 1997. Big Ron Atkinson had just taken control at moribund Sheffield Wednesday, and found himself facing the daunting prospect of a visit from none other than Arsenal. in second place, fresh from a 3-2 win over Manchester United, for his first game in charge of the team. Inspired by the new boss, Wednesday triumphed 2-0.

We move on again. It is January 1999. Nottingham Forest have sacked Dave Bassett, and confirmed the appointment of Ron Atkinson as their new manager. On Saturday, his first match in charge of his new side will be at the City Ground, against - you guessed it, Arsenal. Inspired by the new boss ...?

This weekend's matches are the "return fixtures" of the opening games of the season. Wimbledon beat Tottenham 3-1 at Selhurst Park on a sunny day in August, and kick off a three-game series against the same opposition with an encounter at White Hart Lane, before meeting Spurs twice more in Worthington and FA Cup ties, Expect a casey performance from the visitors, who

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from

those listed right. The total value of your team

must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose

more than one player from the same Premiership

club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with:

one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs;

Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the

list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter

the first three characters of each player's team

under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also

enter the value of each player shown on the list

right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your

MIDRELDER NAME

MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER

LUCKY DEP if you wish to have your learn selected by us at random, tick box. ____ CODE GOALKEEPER NAME CLUB-s

TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the

entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters.

four midfielders; and two forwards.



relish visiting the more fashionable London grounds and puncturing expectations. Rest assured that Joe Kinnear will have devised a plan for dealing with David Ginola, and will be looking forward to putting it into practice on Saturday.

Elsewhere, the games between

Leeds United and Middlesbrough and Derby County and Blackburn look too close to call, but Chelsea Liverpool and West Ham will expect three points each from home matches with Coventry, Southampton and Sheffield Wednesday respectively. Chelsea, especially, will be looking forward to revenge against Coventry, whose opening-day 2-I victory was Chelsea's only league defeat of the

Perhaps the most interesting match-up sees Manchester United visit Filbert Street to face Martin O'Neill's high-energy Leicester City team, who will be without the suspended Matt Elliott, but will still make things difficult for the visitors. On Sunday, what price an end to Charlton's losing run when inconsistent Newcastle come to The

■ Do not forget to check your team total against today's ON-Target number. If the numbers match, you have qualified to enter a draw which could win you £500 cash plus an EA Sports Pack. Even if your team scored only nine points in the week beginning January 5, you still have a chance of winning.

PRIZES

- £50,000 to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final
- £10,300 to the runner-up
- £5,000 for third place

Youth League.

- £1,000 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma
- sports equipment
- 2500 weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports

HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

team and make sure the total does not exceed

Rol) or your credit-card details. You will get

confirmation of your team and your personal

identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry

form. Readers under 18 should seek parental

permission before entering. They must state their

date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our

LUCKY DIP if you would like us to select a team

at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box

(+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-

THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

TO ENTER BY PHONE Cat 0640 67 88 99

on the entry form. Postal entries only.

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250m. Send your entry to the address shown, with

a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or

 £1,000 youth prize, plus mouthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt • £500 weekly On-Target prize

As I was saying

I don't want to seem to be boring . . . Perish the thought. Or a bit of an anorak . . . I would never accuse you of But Newcastle's socks are beginning to worry me. You don't mean they've changed them again? I'm afraid so. What is it now, then? Pink? Purple? A special winter design in brown, so as not to show the mud?

Well, nothing so drastic, actually. Still black, but that white ring round the middle seems to have disappeared now, judging by the television pictures of the Cheisea game.

So you're telling me that the Newcastle socks you got me for Christmas are out of date already, are yout I may be. But then you probably remember that they changed to white, then went back to their original design again: so it may not be too late. You'll be back in fashion in no time at all. Is it Rand Gallit being superstitious, do you

There's no doubt in my mind. Get the socks right, and the rest will follow. And a set of socks costs much less than a new left back. Are you sure? Have you seen the prices of football

kit recently? OK, a decent left back, then. Are you Fantasy League managers superstitious at all? Do you have any sad rituals like always watching the weather forecast on Teletext before looking at the results? Or wearing a lucky hat to check the player

tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in

to give the name of your team (no more than 16

characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN,

make sure you write this down and keep it safe to

be able to check your team's progress and make

transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640

calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the

wier Hems Promotores (M., PO Star 425, Virginia Simus, London ET STY

UK are charged

payphones cost

at national

Calls from

approxim

I was under 18 on August 15, 1998. Date of birth .

The Times Fantasy League, Abecus House, Dudley St, Loton, Beds LU1 122.

Thursday 🔲 Finday 🔲 Saturday 🛄 Don't wouldy buy The Ti

your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked

lists? Putting one sock on before the other? You'd end up with two socks on one foot if you didn't. Mind you, some of my fantasy team seem to grow two left feet as soon as I transfer them in. Remember I put Berkovic in my new team? Only two points from him on Sunday.

Lucky to get that. West Ham never do well at Old Trafford. In fact, they're not so hot in away games generally.

What you're saying is that players who are with teams that are more consistent will get you more regular points. So who should I avoid, apart from West Ham? Newcastle, I'd say, and Derby, too. You never know what they're going to Blackburn look as if they might make a determined bottom of the table, but neither performs too well

away from home. So who do you recommend? With eight straight defeats? You can't get more sistent than that.





FANTASY LEAGUE SERVICES

CHECKLINE 0640 625 102

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4292) TRANSFER LINE To after your team

0640 625 103 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 calls cost 60p per minute (ex UK

0991 123 720 (m.UK +44 870 901 4290)

FAXBACK

SUPER LEAGUE **FAXBACK**

0991 123 721 (cx-UK +44 870 901 4279) acks cost £1 per minute (ex UK

HELPLINE 01582 702720

MEDFELDERS

CENTRE BACKS.

FORWARDS

Γij

Accountant's team adds up to £500

FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK

ه کیزون رایم

This week's Fantasy League winner from Lincolnshire showed the benefit of using the transfer allocation in a shrewd way

ast week on these pages, we were complaining that several players on The Times Fantasy League lists had accomplished fine feats in the FA Cup which counted for nothing in Pantasy terms as they had taken place in FA Cup third-round ties. Darren Huckerby's hat-trick in the game against Macclesfield Town was mentioned prominently. Well, as if to make up for the --

frustration and anguish suffered seven days ago by Fantasy League entrants with Huckerby in their team, the Coventry City centre forward did it again on Saturday in his team's 4-0 win over Nottingham.

Forest at Highfield Road.

A low half-volley from John
Aloisi's flick and a chip over Dave
Beasant were followed by Huckerby's characteristic run from deep, beating man after man before slipping the ball home. And he hit a post after running from his own half, just for good measure.
Huckerby began his career at Lincoln City before being signed by

Newcastle United. For some reason best known to Kevin Keegan, the manager, he played only once before, being loaned to Millwall, for whom he scored three times in six games. and then sold to Coventry. In these days of target men and withdrawn forwards playing "in the hole", he is something of a throwback. Described while at Millwall as "a player who sees the whites of the goalposts and heads off towards them by the most direct route possible", he is a single-minded. goalscorer, who also happens to possess considerable dribbling skills

He can also be immensely frustrating. Many people will recall the playground superstar of their . schooldays who got hold of the ball and would not let it go until he either scored or was dispossessed, and some of them feel a sense of dejá vu when they set eyes on

and a thunderous shot.

Huckerby. Last season, as Coventry cantered to a 5-1 victory over Bolton Wanderers at the Reebok Stadium. there was a revealing moment when Huckerby broke clear of the last defender with George Boateng, the midfield player, in close support As they neared the edge of the penalty area, Boateng thought better of it and stopped running. He knew full well that, with the goal in his sights. Huckerby would never entertain the notion of passing; nor did he. His: failure to score was probably forgiven when he later netted

Saturday's hat-trick was worth nine points to any Fantasy League competitors fortunate enough to have selected him: Jim Ball, for



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COMPANY CHEFS FC	
EDe Goey (CHE)	
A Hischeliffe (SHE)	
M Ball (EVE)	
m Elliott (LEI)	
& Feeta (MID)	
J Redknapp (LIV)	1 W
E Berkovic (WES)	
A Mickey (TOT)	
P Clare (MAN)	
D Yorke (AST)	
D Huckerby (COV)	
TOTAL TOTAL	

instance, the winner of this week's prize of £500 plus £100-worth of sports equipment. "One of the cheaper forwards, but likely to score for any team," is the verdict of Mr Ball, a supporter of Crewe Alexandra, on Huckerby.

Mr Ball organises a 24-team league within the company he works for, J. E. Churchill of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, and found that he was spending so much time administering other people's teams. that he had to make a conscious effort to update his own. "The team had been doing absolutely nothing for a long time," he explained. "I sat down about two months ago and. made half a dozen transfers: It's a case of getting around to getting your transfers in." Good advice to Fantasy League managers: his signings included Ryan Giggs. Dwight Yorke and Andy Hinchcliffe, all of whom contributed this week to his total score of 33 points, as well as his namesake, Michael, of Everton, who seems to figure in so many

successful Fantasy selections. So well done, Company Chefs FC Mr Ball, an accountant, tells us unashamedly that the name refers to jocular accusations that he cooks



Can't pass, probably won't pass: but when, like Darren Huckerby, you can beat the entire opposition team twice over then put the ball in the back of the net, who's worried? Not supporters of Coventry City, who saw Huckerby's lust for goals (0r is it match balls?) net him another hat-trick on Saturday

Kalbs Kings 8. Torays Terrors. Murray's Marvels. Tyneside Army 94 Dion Dion Dion.... Eat My Goal Super Saddlers B. Nath's Champs.... Grand Pan Pizza,... Tora-Co. Tearn.... 217 217 217 216 216 216 215 215 215 215 .Wallys Wonders 2 Bill & Teds Team... Euro Stars These Est Beans Don 5..... Inter City 442. .Super Snipers FC ,Bob's Blasters..... Robert Tidd. Edmo Utd Mingto Charles Donc Phil Rothwell Mike Brayne Och-Anh Waisall Reserve Caroline B.......... Pride O The Rock 210 210 210 210

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

So what if your team is quite useless? You can win anyway

Enter a new team now for ON-Target, where this week you only needs to score a paltry nine points to win the weekly prize

ongratulations to Tony Evans of West Wycombe the fourth week's main winner of ON-Target, who finds himself £500 richer and possessor of an EA Sports Pack. Fourteen other managers have also won themselves excellent

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now - or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. The Times has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned FIFA 99 game. Every week you have the chance to winlst Prize: £500 plus an EA Sports Pack 4 runners up: EA

Sports Packs 10 additional runners up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom. Each EA Sports Pack contains: FIFA 99 for the Playstation; FIFA '99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a

record bag. IF YOU already have a team in the main game, then you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score shown here each Tuesday. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line (national rate call) will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes. The ON-Target score may

be high or low. There could be more than one score (such as today). It could be a minus score. So it's worth checking your performance every week. Just have your PIN number handy to call the winners line on:

0870 901 4270



no limits to how many teams you enter. Not only could you win the ON-Target prizes, but you could win the main game weekly (£500) or monthly (£1,000) prizes

If you don't have a team, HOW TO ENTER: Look up or want to sign up another your players' weekly one enter now by filling in point scores opposite the entry form. There are and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 . 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s), then call our claim line on 0870 981 4270 (calls. charged at national rate,





should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday If you have scored the correct

> the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won.
>
> Managers with the correct points who have not called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main

game rules.

number of points AND called

This week's winners are Mr Tony
Evans of West 'Wycombe. (500
plus EA Sports Pack); Mr Simon
Caldwell of Holyhead, Mr Lawrence Dawneey of London NI7.
Ms Nicola Bridge of London WI3
and Mr L Benson of Ormskirk
CA Screen Death Aft Hele Reand Mr L Benson of Ormskirk (EA Sports Packs); Ms Helen Barrow of Wirral, Mr Jamie Bryan of London E3, Mr Martin Freenantle of Edghaston, Mr R Nellsen of Lordon SWo, Mr Daniel Jennings of Bristol, Mr Graham Waters of Shrewsbury, Mr David-Hargrave of Kirkstall, Leeds, Mr Peter Mason of Weston-super-Mare, Mark Hitchcocks of West Bromwich and Mr Eddie Cham-Bromwich and Mr Eddie Cham-berlain of Basingstoke (Fifa 99





with a test. Last week there were pictures of Karlheinz Riedle, Ugo Ehiogu, Carl Cort and Jonathan Hunt - all of whom scored goals in the last ten minutes of their matches the previous weekend.

connection.

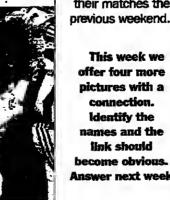
Identify the

link should

Each week we

challenge your

footballing brains





CHECK YOUR SCORES TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

A 2 YOUTH LEAGUE POP 10 3 Geocir United... . Finchmeadrovers Popet's Army... Where Was Gazz Richard Burton No Fear.... Matthew O'Nell. The M Team... Saxham Tuesdays



Gianluca Festa, who features in the weekly winning team

Flo, flu, sicknotes and suspensions

ast week, we touched on the subject of the importance of injuries, illnesses and suspensions in The Times Fantasy League, which events over the past weekend only served to emphasise.

Any player who picked up his fifth or eighth booking of the season received a one-match suspension for the fourth round of the FA Cup. The good news for Fantasy

League managers is that it ensures that the player concerned will not miss an all-important Premiership match as a result of suspension. Both Phil Babb and Martin Keown came into this category, and Fantasy managers with either of these two in their teams are able to raise a wry smile.

The state of the s

However, suspensions are starting to mount as players reach the critical number of yellow cards for a one-match ban. Steve Stone, Matt Elliott and Neil Redfearn are among those missing out next weekend, with Paulo

Wanchope and Patrick Vieira banned for the next two league games after recent sendings-off. On the subject of illnesses, it

TRANSFER LINE Want to make one of your 12

0640 62 51 03 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 calls cost 60p per minute.

Ex-UK calls charged

at national rates

is the time of year when the flu bug makes an impact on many Premiership sides, although the effect of the virus tends to depend on the player who is stricken.

For example, Paul Ince showed his determination to increase his Fantasy League points total even though, by his own admission, he was feeling distinctly under the weather. Despite not producing his usual standard of performance, be realised that he is unable to add to his tally if he doesn't play.

In contrast, if Darren "Sicknote" Anderton has so much as a sniffle, it is rumoured that he hands Sours manager George Graham a letter from his mother excusing him from training. However, it was a thigh injury that caused

him to miss the last hour of Tottenham's encounter with Sheffield Wednesday at the

It could be interesting to keep an eye on players who are returning to first-team action after a long injury lay-off, or those replacing an injured

Gary Kelly, for instance, is lined up for an imminent return to the Leeds United team after a long-term injury and his wing-back role makes him perfectly capable of amassing plenty of assists from wide positions.

Chelsea player-manager Gianluca Vialli, too, is likely to make the most of Tore Andre Flo's six-week absence by putting himself straight into

MATT SIMS

THE TIMES TODAY

Santer agrees EU clean-up

All European Union staff are to be bound by a code of conduct designed to curb corruption, nepotism and mismanagement under reforms accepted by Jacques Santer to avoid censure and the dismissal of all European Commissioners.

The Commission President also accepted a proposal from the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder for a high-level review of the Commission's workings by the Parliament and member Pages 1, 11

Beachy Head crumbles

■ Safety experts were examining Beachy Head after a section of rockface crashed into the sea in what could be Britain's biggest single loss of coastline in living memory. The unmanned lighthouse has been effectively rejoined to the Sussex coast after thousands of tonnes of chalk fell 500ft into the sea____Page 1

Yemeni charges

Five Britons detained in Yemen on suspicion of plotting terrorist outrages are likely to be charge within 48 hours, Robin Cook told ...Page f the Commons

Blair gamble

Tony Blair put the beleaguered National Health Service at the heart of his attempt to reassert the Government's authority.... Page 1

Muslim violence A radical London-based Muslim

organisation has a website which depicts a hand grenade and promores the use of violence... Page 3

Mandelson's hope

Peter Mandelson could be back in the Cabinet before the end of next year. The timing of such a return would allow the former Trade Secretary to perform a high-profile role in the run up to the next gen-_Page 2 eral election...

Boot camp praised Offenders at the only "boot camp"

in England and Wales have praised the tough regime of drill and physical exercise provided there, according to an inspection report...

Policeman accused

A police officer stole £700 from an 83-year-old disabled woman after calling at her home to give advice on crime prevention, a court was

Farmer Bell

Martin Bell, the Independent MP, is about to be overshadowed once more by his late father. Adrian Bell's bestselling book, Corduroy, telling how he came to live and work on a small Suffolk farm, has returned to print for the first time in 20 years ____ Page 6

Teacher's trauma

A teacher who helped to identify dead and injured children after the Dunblane massacre has been awarded compensation for mental trauma, while some bereaved families have yet to receive a pen-

Brown's defence

Gordon Brown mounted a strong defence of new Labour and heaped praise on Tony Blair's modernising in a bid to reassure the public that there was no rift between them...

Iraqi targets

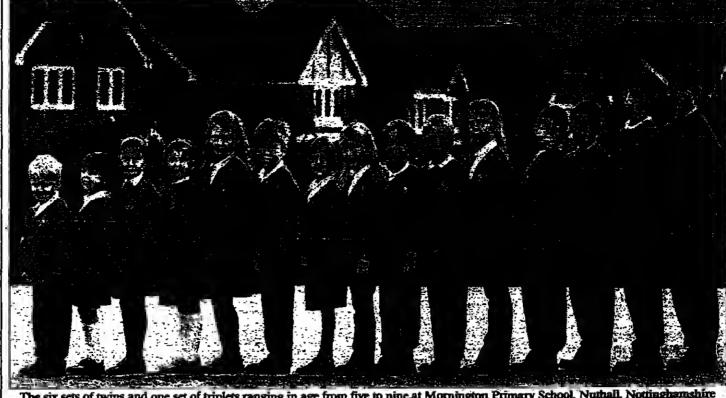
American warplanes fired on Iragi missile batteries and Kuwait put some of its forces on "maximum alert" in two attacks as tension escalated with a defiant Baghdad.

Freetown fighting

Fierce fighting flared up again in Freetown as Nigerian-led intervention forces launched a counterattack to drive rebels from the port and eastern part of Sierra _Page 5 Leone's capital_

Guardians of the lost Ark

For nearly 3,000 years, as fans of Raiders of the Lost Ark might know, people have been searching for the lost Ark of the Covenant. In Ethiopia, however, the search for the chest containing the Ten Commandments never began. The Ethiopians believe that the Holy Ark has been been with them all along, or at least since it was removed from Jerusalem....



The six sets of twins and one set of triplets ranging in age from five to nine, at Mornington Primary School, Nuthall, Nottinghamshire

Tobacco merger: British American Tobacco announced a £15 billion merger with Rothmans International, which will have a 16 per cent share of the worldwide cigarette market. .Page 25.

Goldman coup: The chief executive of Goldman Sachs was pushed aside in an internal power struggle yesterday after forcing the investment banking partnership into an ill-fated flotation... ... Page 25

Post charge: The Post Office and the Government were attacked for secrecy over the first big overseas postal purchase - thought to be worth up to £375 million....Page 25 Markets: The FTSE100 fell 62.2 to 6085.0. The pound fell .01 cents to \$1.6400 and rose .06p to 70.34p against the euro... _Page 28. Cricket: England recorded their second win in two matches in the triangular series in Australia when they beat Sri Lanka by four wickets with three balls to spare Page 48 Football: Ron Atkinson's appoint-

ment as manager of Nottingham Forest was confirmed. He will begin the job on Friday, the day before his new team, in bottom place, plays the reigning Premiership champions, Arsenal.... Page 48 Rugby league: Maurice Lindsay is to step down after spending 20 years at the forefront of the British

Racing: Jockeys, who break the whip rules in big races from March I could be given a lengthy ban. The offending rider will be referred to the Jockey Club.

Page 45

Comic cuts: Liz Lochhead's warm play Perfect Days arrives in London from its Edinburgh success. with Siobhan Redmond playing celebrity hairdresser Barbs, desperate for a baby Page 32

Music, maestros: The PLG Young

Artists Series continues with an impressive performance of Ives by an Australian pianist. The Halle pays homage to Catalonia Page 32 Santchi says: Not content with collecting contemporary art by the truckload, Charles Saatchi has now named an entire art movement -Neurotic Realism Page 33 White magic: The dance form butoh has come a long way since its

birth in Japan in the 1950s, as Sadier's Wells audiences will discover from Sankai Juku... Page 34

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

IT and the art of

dreams. Plus, helping the

blind to join the Internet.

sale, London's

splendid town

INTERFACE

HOMES

most ·

house

since he became Her Majesty's Inspector of Prisons Page 15 Mummy's boy: Every woman knows that for all their talk of independent lifestyles, men just want to

be mothered_ Page 15 IT boost: An extra £20 million will be provided to help small firms to

take advantage of electronic com-

Page 21

Live longer. In the second extract

from his book, the scientist Tom

Kirkwood discusses anti-ageing

foods and supplements ____ Page 14

Doing time: Zimmer frames in the

cell blocks: the sort of depressing

sight to which General Sir David

Ramsbotham, has become immed

Temple talk: Not for years has an issue so dominated talk in the Temple and divided the talkers so deeply as the rights and wrongs of the Pinochet affair," writes Sir Louis Blom Cooper Page 37

Binyamin Netanyahu's original pofitical patron. Moshe Arens, will be running against him in the party primary on January 25, it was confirmed yesterday. He will thus join MK Uzi Landau in challenging the increasingly beleaguered Netanyahu for the Likud leadership . - The Jerusalem Post Review. The effects of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy (ITV, 10.40) Review: The League of Gentlemen already has the feel of a cult show,

A tresh wind

With Labour always looking for a fresh wind, Mr Blair could let Mr 🚺 Mandelson loose on campaigning before the election. But even "the last lot" would not have countenanced a return to office so soon after such a disgrace Page 17

Real Germans

Germany is one of the few countries in Western Europe that still equates citizenship with blood and soil. Apart from the unpleasant association with racial purity, the law is patently unsuited to today's con-.. Page 17:

Once two is two

Numeracy is a basic skill which every parent expects their child to acquire, and which too many schools

LIBBY PURVES

The only test of any action is whether it does good; and who can possibly benefit from this post-marital character assassination? __ Page 16

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JAMES LAUGHLAND

The Bank of England should be privanised; it should mint a gold coin, the sovereign; and banknotes should be issued which are convertible on demand into it ____Page 16

MICHAEL GOVE

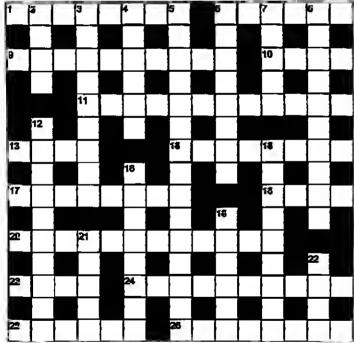
Are the members of the Labour Party, and the readers of The Guardi- 1 an aware of the obsessions which grip the leader of their party and their paper's editor? Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

In the end, everything that matters in this Government comes back to Gordon Brown Page 8:

Colonel Anthony Simmonds, M19 officer, Jean-Claude Forest, cartoonist Professor Tadeus Rybczyn-aki, economist Pase 19

Nurses; term-time holidays; officers' origins; religion; interest rates; honour in politics Page 17



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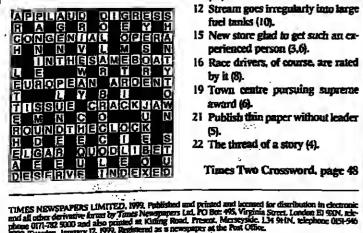
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- 1 A revolutionary objective rejected in educational setting (8).
- 6 Period of abstinence in extremes of poverty is quite enough (6). 9 Gambler offering odds against
- Euro-currency taking pound to a peak (10). 10 See red coming into fashion (4).
- 11 Dreadfully sad once 1 lost? (12). 13 Crew throwing individual in
- 14 Regular soldiers, though, do
- 17 An awful lot eater put into stom-18 Induced doctor to join partner
- 20 Confusion produced by less disci-

plined troops in venture (12).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,997



- 24 Secret writing found in vault giv-
- en zero weight (10). 25 Dormant reptile has secured shelter (6).
- 26 Looking gloomy it's depressing DOWN
- 2 Cloak many copy (4). 3 Decline of new church seen, a number of years earlier (9).
- 4 Like the issue of mixed parentage difficult to handle (6). 5 Early star or moon confused emi-
- nent watcher of the skies (10,5). 6 Mistletoe, say, supplied by the host (8).
- 7 Learning to climb, put name in register (5).
- 8 Highly-strung performers' lines
- 12 Stream goes irregularly into large fuel tanks (10).
- 15 New store glad to get such an experienced person (3,6). 16 Race drivers, of course, are rated
- 19 Town centre pursuing supreme award (6). 21 Publish thin paper without leader
- 22. The thread of a story (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper reade up 46 03% of the raw mai



☐ Generalt rain in all areas, briefly preceded by snow in Scotland, Weles, and western and northern England, especially on higs, Drier oversight except in Northern Ireland and western Scotland.

☐ London, SE & E England, E Anglis: staring dry and cold. Heavy rain by after-noon. Wind tresh SW. Max 6C (43F). Centrel S England, Midlands: heavy rain, snow on higher ground, drier later. Wind fresh S. Max 7C (45F).

Channel Islands: heavy rain clearing later. Wind fresh S. Max 7C (45F).

SW, NW, Central N & NE England Weles, Lake District, lake of Marc rai and hill-snow, then surny spells and show ers. Wind tresh SW to W. Max 6C (43F).

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Duridee: heavy rain and show then surny spells and show-ers. Wind strong SE to W. Max 5C (41F). ers. Wind strong SE to W. Max SC (41+).

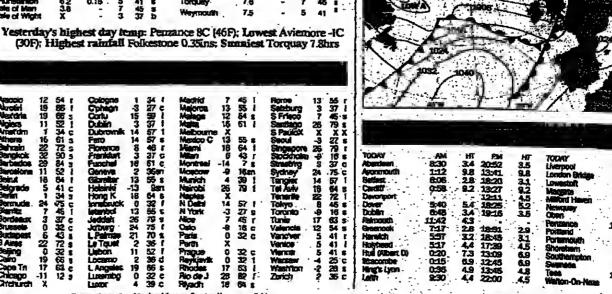
Aberdmen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Ortasey, Shwilland: rain and show clearing to surmy spells and blustery showers. Wind strong SE to W. Max SC (41+).

SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argylic breezy with frequent showers, some heavy. Wind fresh to strong, W to NW. Max 6C (43+).

N Ireland: breszy with surmy spells and showers. Wind fresh W. Max 7C (45F). ☐ Republic of treatmet suriny intervals and bustery showers, especially in northwest. Wind strong NW, Mex 8C (48F). ☐ Outlook: wet and windy.

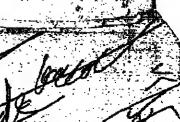
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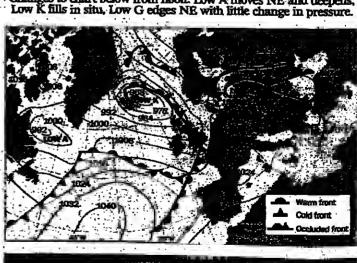


Total number of lives saved in 1998: Total number of lifeboat launches in 1998: Cost to RNLI per day: Cost to taxpayer. To make a donation, telephone:

ifeboats

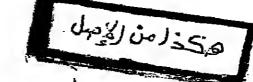


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INSIDE **SECTION**



ECONOMICS Anatole Kaletsky

makes his 1999 predictions **PAGE 29**



ARTS

Lift a glass to Siobhan Redmond's latest play

PAGES 32-34



LAW

How Lord Hoffmann raised a host of issues

PAGES 37, 39

TELEVISION AND **RADIO Pages** 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Corzine loses out in Goldman Sachs shake-up

FROM OLIVER AUGUST EN NEW YORK

JON CORZINE, the Goldman Sachs chief executive, was pushed aside in an internal power struggle yesterday after forcing the invest-

ment banking partnership into an ill-fated flotation.

John Thornton, the Laura Ashley chairman and a senior partner, will

Mr Corzine, 52, had been the chief architect of the postponed \$30 bil-lion (£18 billion) flotation that would subject the business to the public scrutiny of shareholders.

The controversial flotation was put on hold in the autumn after market turmoil had reduced the poten- has not yet rescheduled the flotation.

become co-chief operating officer tial windfall. The 250 partners were and is being lined up as a future set to be given equity stakes ranging from \$50 million up to a rumoured \$1 billion for Mr Corzine.

Mr Corzine, who will remain a partner, said: "I believe that this is in the best long-term interest of the firm. I will now concentrate my energies on successfully completing our initial public offering." Goldman

The post of chief executive will be filled by Hank Paulson. Mr Corzine and Mr Paulson will continue to be co-chairmen. Mr Corzine will not receive a payoff.

Mr Thornton will share the post of co-chief operating officer with John Thain. A Goldman statement said they would have "broad respon-sibilities for the entire firm, across all divisions and regions". Insiders

see this as a clear hint that Mr Thornton and Mr Thain are set to

rise further to the top.

Mr Thornton holds the post of managing director at Goldman Sachs International, the London sub-

Goldman's senior management committees were also reshuffled yes-terday. The all-powerful executive committee, a six-man cabal that vet-

ted all executive decisions, will be replaced by a new management committee of which Mr Corzine will not

be a member. Mr Paulson said: "The best time for transition is during a period of great strength. We believe the appointments and the evolution of the governance of the firm will strengthen our management focus and keep the firm on a solid foundation."

Business optimism boosted by MPC rate cuts

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS EDITOR

BUSINESS optimism picked up late last year despite expectations of a sharp economic slowdown in 1999, largely because of the Monetary Policy Committee's willingness to cut interest rates:

The Institute of Directors' latest quarterly survey showed that business optimism improved slightly last month after dramatic falls in confi dence in the previous two. Similarly, firms in the financial sector, surveyed by the Confederation of British Industry and PricewaterhouseCoopers, said that they expected a sharp slowdown in business and significant job losses in the first quarter but were less gloomy than they were in September. Ruth Lea, Head of the Policy Unit at the IoD, attributed this to lower rates and said the institute was confident recession would be avoided in the UK economy. She noted, however, that manufacturing industry is already in recession, a view supported by figures from the Office for National Statistics yesterday. They showed that manufacturing output fell 0.2 per cent in November compared with October, the fourth successive monthly fall.

The economy as a whole may have narrowly escaped a contraction in the final quarter of last year. Based on yesterday's output figures, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research yesterday estimated that growth in the three months to December was a marginal 0.1 per cent.
The British Retail Consorti-

um said retail sales in December had shown no growth from a year ago and sales fell 0.3 per cent on average in the three months to December, the worst performance since the BRC figures started in March 1994.

The ONS said output prices in December were no higher than a year ago, the best per-formance for 40 years. In addition, Incomes Data Services indicated that wage deals are be-

BUSINESS TODAY

FTSE 100_ 6085.0 (-62.2) 2.69% Yield 2507% FTSE All Share 2762.73 (-21.95) Nildon 13368.48 (-23.33) LONDON MONEY

119.24 (119.64) New York:

1.1535* (1.1575) 1.3966* (1.3947) 108.78* (110.90) 103.0 (103.7)

Tokyo close Yen 110,40 BORDH SEA OF

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London close \$292,70 (\$291.45) Exchange rates * denotes midday trading prices Lukewarm

reaction to **Enterprise** Lasmo deal

BY CARL MORTISHED

INSTITUTIONS have given a lukewarm reception to the news that Enterprise Oil and Lasmo are in merger talks. Pierre Jungels, chief executive of Enterprise, said that share-holders had not responded positively to the news.

Shares of Lasmo gained 12 per cent to 1061/2p yesterday on speculation that Enterprise would offer a premium to seal a deal. In turn, Enterprise shares lost 9p to 278p. Some an-alysts said the savings from combining the two companies would be minimal. Instead, the City is hoping that a bid will come from a third party with Agip, Elf and Statoil mentioned alongside smaller

US integrated companies. Mark Ianotti, of Credit Suisse First Boston, said: I think the chances are high of a cash bidder coming in. There is less than a 50 per cent chance of these companies merging."

Commentary, page 27

January sale fails to lift

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By SARAH CUNNINGHAM RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

Austin

Reed

AUSTIN REED, the clothing retailer, issued a profits warning yesterday after its January sale fell flat.

The company said that after a dismal run-up to Christmas, the anticipated rush of customers to its sale had failed to materialise. Colin Evans, chairman said: "There has been too

much discounting through the season and the hi-annu al sales have much less impact." The company brought forward its final discounts to try to clear stock before the new season. Mr Evans said that levels were now under control and margins have been

Like for like sales for the half year to January 31 are likely to be 12 per cent below last year, Austin Reed said. The sale period taken alone fared even worse. Interim pre-tax profit is expected to be between £6 milhon and £6.5 million, the company said, compared with forecasts of nearer E9

Austin Reed also announced that it is closing a shirt factory in Ireland's Co Donegal, with the loss of 136 jobs.

Wm Morrison, the supermarkets group based in Yorkshire, said that like for-like sales in the five weeks to January 3 were 3.4 per cent higher, boosting its own shares by 10½p to 297p and lifting the whole food

retail sector. Elsewhere, Ottakar's, the booksellers, said like-forlike sales in the six weeks to January 2 were 6.3 per cent higher, while Majestic Wine saw its like-for-like sales up 2.7 per cent in the nine weeks to January 4. Merchant Retail Group. which owns the Perfume Shop and Joplings depart-ment stores, saw like-forlike sales up 6.2 per cent in

the five weeks to January 2.



IUUacco meigei wii cost thousands of jobs

By Robert Cole, City correspondent

THOUSANDS of jobs are likely to be lost worldwide as a result of the £15 billion merger of cigarette giants British American Tobacco and Rothmans Internation-

BAT admitted yesterday that jobs would be cut, but refused to be drawn on where the axe would fall. Together the two employ 70,000 people around the world, and about 5,500 in the UK.

Despite its name BAT neither produces nor sells eighrettes in the UK. Rothmans, has production facilities and 1,200 jobs in the Prime Minister's constituency in Co Dur-ham, which may be hit. Rothmans also employs people at The Rothmans merger is Southampton. Head office an all-share deal and using

personnel from both compames are also likely to be at

Martin Broughton, chief ex-ecutive of BAT, said there would be annual cost savings of £250 million. The deal would also enhance earnings in the year to December 2000 but give rise to £400 million of one off charges.

BAT shares jumped 15 per cent to 625p. Since October 1997, when the company revealed plans to demerge its financial services businesses, shareholders - who now hold shares in the separately quoted compa-nies BAT and Allied Zurich have seen the value of their in-

vestments rise 46 per cent.
The Rothmans merger is

BAT's opening share price yesterday the value of Rothmans was £4.6 billion and the worth of the combined business £13 billion. However, because of the rise in the BAT share price Rothmans' value rose to £5.3 billion by the close and the combination to near-

The link with Rothmans confounds speculation that BAT was looking to combine with Reynolds, the US tobacco firm owned by RJR Nabisco.

The Rothmans deal was presented as a merger but most observers see it as a takeover by BAT of Rothmans. The name of the business will remain BAT, and the senior board positions will remain unchanged. Rothmans is owned by Richemont, the luxury goods group based in Switzerland, and Rembrandt, a South African combine. Both are controlled by the South African Rupert family. They will own 35 per cent of the enlarged BAT. However, its voting rights are to be restricted to 25 per cent.

Johann Rupert, Richemeont chief executive, said that BAT had offered to pay cash in-stead of issuing shares. But Richemont and Rembrandt were keen to maintain the fullest exposure to the ongoing business. They also said that they intended to be "long-term, supportive investors".

Mr Rupert said: "The long-term interests of the Rothmans Group are best served by being part of a larger tobac-

co business which will have enhanced market positions and greater scale of operations." BAT is already the world's third-largest cigarette seller. The acquisition of Rothmans will take it closer to Philip Morris, however. The state-owned Chinese tobacco company is the world's biggest producer.

Competition issues in various parts of the world means BAT may have to sell off parts of the business. The combined group will have 90 per cent of the South African market, 60 per cent in Australia and 80 per cent of Canada. The deal will also be inspect-

ed by European competition authorities.

Commentary, page 27 | ginning to fall.

pany, publisher of The Mirror.

Sunday Mirror, The People

Post Office attacked for secrecy Shareholders urge Mirror deal

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Post Office and the Gov-fice reserves, money borrowed ernment were attacked for se- commercially and money bor- to the taxpayer?" crecy over the first big overseas postal purchase — thought to be worth up to £375 million.

The Post Office confirmed its purchase of German Parcel Germany's fourth biggest par-el company, in a deal that was

approved by the Government several weeks ago. The pur-chase will be funded by Post Ofrowed from the Government. Neither the Government nor the Post Office would say what

dustry Secretary, said: "Why won't they tell us how much it is costing, how much public money is in there and the risk

A spokesman for UPS, the postal and parcel service, said: We were promised effective regproportion of the cash was comulation. How can we see that oping from where because of commercial sensitivity. John Redwood, Shadow Trade and Inis putting into purchases?"

John Roberts, chief executive of the Post Office, said Peter Mandelson, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, had been told of the German talks in the autumn. Mr Mandelson gave the Post Office greater commercial freedom last month but he would not detail the extent of the freedom.

Commentary, page 27 | ty is the best option for the com-

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

LARGE shareholders of Mirror Group believe merger talks with Trinity, the regional newspaper group, should resume as soon as possible. Phillips & Drew, the largest Mirror shareholder with 22 per cent, says a deal with Trini-

and Scotland's Daily Record. P&D yesterday made it clear it would be unhappy if corporate "cultural differences" were to stand in the way of a deal. On Sunday, Trinity

said it had withdrawn from talks with immediate effect.
The Mirror board issued a statement to staff that said the

was based on replicating the integration of Mirror Group and Midland Independent Newspapers on a larger scale. Trinity, the largest UK regional newspaper group, is ready to accept Sir Victor Blank, Mirror Group chairman, as non-executive chair-man of the enlarged group but would insist that Philip Graf,

rationale for talks with Trinity its chief executive, should be chief executive. David Montgomery, Mirror Group chief executive, would stand down once integration of the two companies was complete. Mirror shares rose 4p yesterday to 166p, still well below last year's peak of 248p. Trinity shares fell 1½p to 428½p.

Tempus, page 28

No. no. no!

Yes, yes, yes!

4.99% (5.1% APR) for 2 years. John Charcol, on European - style mortgage rates.

We say "yes" to low European mortgage levels with this remarkable 2-year fixed rate mortgage. There is compulsory buildings insurance - but no penalty that extends beyond 50/4/2001. We believe you'll find this product hard to beat, so cut along to your propost branch now. The details: I = 99% (5.1% APR) fixed to 50/4/2001. I regulable for purchases and remortgages to 85% of property value. If redemption penalties 5% of the loan amount before 50% 2001 then one months interest I maximum loan £200,000 I a fee of £5+0. Call now for your nearest branch.

ODEN CHARCOL

Talk about

Bessed on a 260,000 interest only manage on a property valued at \$100,000 repelld over 25 years, 500 gross monthly represents of \$249,50 at 4,99% \$1% APRI. Total charge for credit \$75,606,88. Total amount payable gross \$135,606,88 calculated to include a lender's arrangement tee of \$285, a valuation tee of \$205, \$245

BUSINESS NEWS

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

SECRET Microsoft pricing data was yesterday presented as evidence of the software company's monopoly

power in the historic anti-trust trial. The court was ordered into closed session when the Justice Department lawyers revealed that they had subpoenaed contracts and wholesale pricing information that shows Microsoft can freely raise the price of Windows, the operating system used on 90 per cent of the world's personal computers.

Property

group gets

funding

Development Securities,

the property group, yester-

day announced the comple-

tion of a package of fund-ing totalling £125 million.

The medium-term debt fi-

nancing programme in-cludes E75 millioo from

two oew five to seven-year

revolving bank facilities with HSBC Midland and

Barclays. The company will use the additional

bank facilities for portfolio

ICI Estates has completed

the sale of four landhold-

ings to Redrow Group, the

housebuilder and commer-

cial developer. The deal has realised £14.5 million

in cash with additional

payments of up to another £20 million dependent on planning consents. The sites include an area to the

east of the M49 at Severn-

side and land in Harro-

gate that is the subject of proposals for retail devel-

Dairy Crest buy

Dairy Crest Group, the

dairy Crest Group, the dairy food company, has bought Loogs Dairies for £4 million in cash. The company said that Longs, which is based in Great

Yarmouth, would strength-

en its position as the lead-

ing supplier of milk to

doorstep and retail custom-

ers in East Anglia, Longs

Dairies bad a turnover last

Denmans ahead

Denmans Electrical, a sup-

plier of lighting products,

reported pre-tax profits up

7 per cent to £4.03 million

for the year ended September 30. Earnings per share

were 15.12p, from 13.66p

last time. The recommend-

ed final dividend of 25p

Clubhaus, à European golf

course owner-operator, has bought Tutzing Golf Course in Munich, Germa-ny, for DM6.0 million

(£2.2 million). It brings its total number of golf facili-ties to 19, four of which are

Hacas advances

Hacas, the property consul-

tancy, yesterday an-nounced a pre-tax profit of £640.407 for the year end-

ed September 30, up from E511,000 last year. The re-

sults are the company's

first since it reversed into AIM-listed General Indus-

tries in July 1998. No dividend was offered.

increase of 8 per cent.

Clubhaus deal

year of £10.8 million

ICI land sale

acquisitions.

cleared before the evidence was heard because of its sensitive nature. The records were seized last autumn. According to insiders, government lawyers compared the price at which Dell and Compaq, two companies close to Microsoft, buy Windows

The bulk of Windows sales are directly to manufacturers who are contractually obliged to pay Microsoft a licence fee for every computer sold that is loaded with the operating sys-

with the price paid by IBM and Gate-

almost unsaleable in today's market.

Court is cleared in Microsoft hearing

The pricing data, the last evidence to be presented by the Justice Department before Microsoft presents its witnesses, could be a vital building block in the anti-trust case.

One of the economic definitions of a monopoly is that the company in question can raise prices without losing market share. The Justice Department has previously declared that relative to other software products Windows' retail price has gone up in recent years. Microsoft replied that it

Microsoft had insisted the court be tem. A computer without Windows is kept the retail price constant while say that the Justice Department has

adding features. But the different prices offered to manufacturers are seen as clear evidence that Microsoft uses the power. of Windows to force companies into alliances that help it to dominate oth-

The Justice Department argued Dell and Compaq "earned" the lower prices by promoting other Microsoft products. The regulators are trying to prove that Microsoft is acting like a predator and needs to be restrained. Halfway through the trial, observers

resented a convincing case. The Consumer Federation of Ameri-

ca vesterday claimed that Microsoft has overcharged customers worldwide by \$10 billion (£6 billion) in recent years. Mark Cooper, the CFA research director, said: "Microsoft is keeping prices high while costs are going down."

Microsoft denied the charges and said it offered consumers a good deal. The cost of an average PC is increased by about \$50 if loaded with Windows A Windows 98 upgrade costs about \$90 in the shops.

Volvo confirms talks with Fiat

VOLVO yesterday confirmed that it was in talks with Fiat after Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of the Italian carmaker, admitted that discussions had taken place between the two companies. Volvo shares plunged, however, slipping 5 per cent as the Swedish company insisted that the companies were not

close to a deal. Volvo is under pressure to find a partner among the larger manufacturers to reduce the cost of launching new models.

Analysis have speculated that Ford would be a better big brother than Flat as the former makes large cars and could share engines and drive systems. It would also give Volvo better access to the US market where it has less than one per cent of car sales. Other industry experts say Fiat and Volvo would complement each other, much as would have been the case if the once-planned alliance with Renault had been realised. The Renault-Volvo plan collapsed in 1993.

New chief at Nissan UK

NISSAN UK, whose Sunderland plant is Europe's most productive car manufacturer, has appointed a new managing director. John Cushnaghan has been promoted from deputy managing director at Sunderland. The running of Sunderland has been relinquished by Sir Ian Gibson, who is overseing Nissan's European strategy. Sir Ian, who was knighted in this New Year Honours for services to the car manufacturing inclusion, and have delige assertions to the car manufacturing industry, had been doing several jobs for some time. He has also ceased to run Nissan's plant in Barcelona.

Lewis raises funds

HENRY LEWIS, founder and chairman of Action Computer Services, has raised £202,000 by selling almost half of his stake in Electronics Boutique. Mr Lewis, a non-executive director of the computer games retailer, said the disposal was for "personal and family reasons". He retains a £280.000 stake in Electronics Boutique, which returned an upbeat trad-ing statement last week. Mr Lewis holds an 8.8 per cent stake in Action Computer Services, worth £6.1 million. He also sits on the board of Oasis, the fashion retailer.

E*Trade Group loss

E*TRADE GROUP, the American online discount broker, reported a 63 per cent rise in revenues in the first quarter as it added 132,000 customer accounts. The company also reported a net loss of \$13.2 million [88 million] for the quarter, below Wall Street forecasts. The company, which reported a net profit of \$5.1 million in the first quarter of the previous year, said acrive customer accounts increased 55 per cent during the fourth quarter, to 676,000 as of the end of December.

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Field in takeover talks

SHARES of Field Group rose 55p to 2814p after the specialist packaging business said it was in talks that could lead to a takeover bid being made. Field is valued at about £170 million at yesterday's closing price. The company's shares have fallen over the past 12 months in reaction to a decline in first-half profits and a warning on trading. Field's main attraction is its strength in European pharmaceuticals; however, its exposure to drinks and tobacco was blamed for the decline in profils.

Zochonis warning

PATERSON ZOCHONIS, a household products manufacturer, said that it expects profits for the year to May 31, 1999, will be significantly down on the pre-tax figure of £32.7 million it reported last year. The company blamed adverse economic and trading conditions in China, Eastern Europe and Nigeria. Exceptional provisions of £6.3 million will be made. Zochonis said it expects an unchanged Interim dividend, due February 16. of 5.85p a share for the six months to November 30, 1998.

Inn Business expands

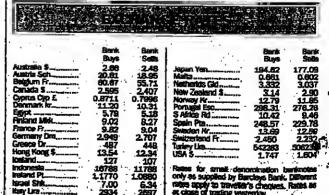
INN BUSINESS, the pub group, is to boost its 470-strong tenanted estate by acquiring Scorpio linus, which operates 111 tenancies in the West of England and Wales. The company yesterday paid E500,000 for a 25.2 per cent stake in Scorpio and has an option to buy out the remainder before July next year for a maximum of £2.75 million plus working capital. If Scorpio fails to meet targets its shareholders will buy back the stake at par. Inn Business is also to dispose of its nine remaining unbranded managed houses.

Central bankers meet

ALAN GREENSPAN, chairman of the US Federal Reserve, told central bankers meeting in Hong Kong that there were prospects for an easing in American economic growth, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said yesterday. Andrew Crockett, general manager of BIS, said Mr Greenspan told the 17 central bankers that growth would ease but would be satisfactory. Mr Crockett said central bankers at the meeting believed the global economic environment was "reasonably positive".

Meridien for Taiwan

GRANADA'S Meridien Hotels chain will enter the Taiwanese market this week by taking over the Gloria Hotel in Taipei un-der a management contract. The four-star, 226-room hotel owned by Tien-Kuei Chen, a local businessman, will undergo a \$3 million-plus (EZ1 million) refurbishment. Le Méridien Gloria Taipei, as it will be rebranded, will be the chain's 104th hotel. Bernard Lambert, managing director, said: "It moves us closer to our target of 200 Méridien hotels in the next five years."



French launch £680m bid for English China Clays

By CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS **EDITOR**

IMETAL, the French conglomerate, swooped on English China Clays yesterday, with a £680 million cash offer for the industrial minerals company. The French bidder is at-

tempting to bypass the ECC management with its 225p per share offer after it failed to get a decision from the ECC board after a meeting last week.

ECC quickly rejected the offer vesterday, saving it "fails by a wide margin to reflect the value of the company's busi-

ness and prospects". Denis Rediker, chief executive, said the company needed time to evaluate the offer. "They attempted to hold a gun to our heads and demanded a response in 48 hours."

News of the bid caused

ECC's lacklustre shares to spring into action, rising 51 per cent to 242p. Shares in the British company, which processes minerals used in the paper and water treatment industries, have suffered from pricing pressure in kaolin and an expensive diversification into chemicals. Analysts said that the share

price was reflecting the expec-

tation that Imetal would have to pay more to secure a board recommendation. However, a rival bid is thought unlikely and Imetal might have trouble increasing its cash bid which will send its gearing ratio to 120 per cent.

linetal is quoted in Paris

and controlled jointly by Paul Desmarais, chairman of Canada's Power Corporation, and Frere Group, the Belgian company that controls the interests of Baron Albert Frère. Imetal has a kaolin business but is also involved in metal processing and building materials. Patrick Kron, Imetal's chief

executive, lost no time in pour ing scorn on ECC's record. He pointed to a 40 per cent negative shareholder return from ECC since January 1995, a peri-od in which the return from the All-share index had doubled in value.

M Kron said that ECC had missed opportunities in its core white pigments business by failing to acquire a stake in the new Brazilian reserves and had failed to exploit its technology in precipitate calcium carbonate. He said: "They have boxed themselves into a corner."

Mr Rediker responded: "If there is a box, it would seem

the corner."

The kaolin price has been under pressure for the past two years as vast new reserves in Brazil came on stream. It has also been affected by the substitution of calcium carbonate for kaolin by papermakers. Imetal has an interest in the Brazilian kaolin reserves

M Kron criticised ECC for its acquistion of Calgon. "We don't see the impact of synergies." He said ECC had failed to participate in the industry consolida tion in specialty chemicals.

Tempus, page 28

Courtaulds issues profits warning

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM,

COURTAULDS TEXTILES. one of Marks & Spencer's large suppliers, yesterday became the latest in a string of manufacturers to issue a profits warning, blaming weak demand from its UK customers.

The shares fell 13p to 160p as the company vowed to increase its production in countries with cheaper labour and infrastructure costs as part of its effort to resume profit

The company, which bought Claremont Garments

— another of Marks & Spencer's largest clothing suppliers.

— in October for £10 million. said pre-tax profits would be £36 million, about £2.5 million

Courtaulds Textiles said that the international side of its bosiness had generally performed well and helped to offset the weak UK autumn/winter sales.
The French tights and lingerie
businesses enjoyed good trade,
but demand for European lace
was "fragile", it said. Sales of
stretch fabrics to Asia and the

US were good. Despite the difficult UK market, the company said it had ended the autumn/winter season with its stocks in line with targets. It also said that it was starting 1999 with full produc-tion schedules.

The company, which is announcing its preliminary results on March II, said that the restructuring of Clare-mont, where 1,125 staff have been made redundant, should "quickly restore profitability".

SHARES of Triad, the information technology group, fell 40p to 527½p yesterday on worries over the nature of its trading. Triad, whose chief executive is Mira Makar, above, lifted pre-tax profits to £3.8 million for the six months ended September 30, up from £2.9 million last time. Earnings per share were 10.3p (7.5p) and an interim dividend of 3p was offered (2p).

DTI calls for role in UK resumes aviation EdF's electricity bid

THE Government is urging the European Commission to let UK competition authorities vet the £1.9 billion takeover bid for London Electricity by

Electricité de France.
The Department of Trade and Industry said its request relates to concerns it has in relation to the merger, which was

announced on December 4. If the takeover is allowed it will return London to state control as EdF is owned by the French Government, EdFeffectively controls the interconnec-

tween Britain and France, because its cheap exports ensure effective one-way traffic. The UK Government is likely to press for contracts to be renegotiated to boost the British

power market. The DTI wants the bid to be considered under the UK's Fair Trading Act. European rules apply when two member countries are involved in crossborder deals but the EU has allowed the UK to impose conditions in water industry bids. gested runways of Heathrow,

talks with America

BY OUR CITY STAFF

were held in London last October, only to break up over US complaints of British intransigence, and delay further the proposed alliance between British Airways and American Airlines. The main issue still centres on how to gaio access to the con-

tic carriers because of its busi-Under the Bermuda II aviation agreement, only four air-

BA, American Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and United Airlines. The US says it needs an "open

skies" trade agreement with Britgredient to an open skies deal.

tor, which transports power be-BRITAIN and the US are to which ranks as Europe's most make another attempt at liberalising their aviation market, with the resumption of trade talks next month, it was announced yesterday. The first talks in 20 months

lucrative landfall for transatlan-

lines can operate transatlantic services out of Heathrow -

ain before the BA-American alliance can be approved. Britain says approval is an essential in-

Capital hit as oil price keeps high-rollers away

SHARES in Capital Corporaoon lost more than 10 per cent of their value yesterday as the London casino operator gave hil by the region's economic warning that the oil price fall crisis. In a trading statement, it said: The London gaming market remains depressed. was keeping Middle Eastern punters away.
Its shares shed 7p to 59½p

as it forecast that 1998 operating profits would be just £8 million compared with £17.6 million the year before. Analysts are predicting that interest charges will restrict profits at the pre-tax level to just £5.5

The scarcity of Middle East-

ern punters is a blow given that Capital was already suf-fering from a lack of Asian high-rollers, who have been Capital, which runs Crock-

with the level of high-roller play substantially reduced." Hopes of a takeover are also fading. It is more than four months since Capital admitted that it had received a number of approaches, but yesterday it said: "These talks have not vet led to formal or indicative of-

fers at a level that the board could recommend and it re-mains unclear whether such offers will be forthcoming."

fords, the Colony Club and the Cromwell Mint, has also been hit by last year's punitive rise in gaming duty which has added £2.5 million to its annual tax bill. However, it said the resilience of its business at the middle and lower end of the market allied to tighter cost controls had left it "well placed to take advantage of any up-turn in high-roller activity".

Airbus silent on shake-up as record sales achieved

BY ADAM JONES

AIRBUS Industrie reported record sales figures yesterday but remained tight-lipped about a massive restructuring currently being discussed by its four partners.

Airbus, owned by Aérospatiale of France, Dasa of Germany, British Aerospace and Casa of Spain, took firm orders for 556 planes worth \$39 billion (£24 billion) in 1998 - a year that may prove to be a peak in the aerospace industry cycle. Airbus, which had previously had only 460 orders in its

best year, claimed that it had

cornered 45 per cent of the market for planes with more than 100 seats. Market share figures are a traditional bone of contention between Airbus and Boeing, its US rival.
Boeing objects to the Airbus

practice of counting market share by the number of orders rather than their value. The latter would favour the bigger planes sold by Boeing, al-though Airbus is developing larger aircraft that will redress the balance.

An Airbus spokesman re-fused to specify when the

planemaker's transformation into a more conventional company is expected to take place, beyond saying it would hap-pen this year. Airbus, as a consortium. does not publish

The Asian economic crisis led to the cancellation of 14 orders for single-aisle aircraft. All were reallocated to other airlines and Airbus says the market potential in Asia is still attractive. The spokesman would not say if Airbus expected global orders to drop this year.

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Swiss kick off £20m CPG bid

BY CHRIS AYRES

THE Swiss company that controls the marketing rights to football's World Cup yesterday launched a £20 million takeover bid for Britain's Copyright Promotions Group (CPG), which represents the rights to film and television creations such as Star Wars and The Simpsons.

ISMM's 130p-a-share cash bid - which has been recommended by CPG's board values CPG at a 21 per cent premium to its closing share price on Friday. Shares in the company rose 20p yesterday to 12712p.

If the deal goes ahead, it will create one of the largest sports and entertainment licensing companies in the world, ISMM specialises in exploiting the rights to sporting competitions; while CPG's speciality is film and television. The board of CPG are expected to stay with the merged

company.

As well as controlling the rights to the World Cup until 2006, ISMM represents the rights to the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and the International Amateur Athletic Federation

David Cardwell, CPG's chief executive, said: "We are delighted at the prospect of joining forces with ISMM. In pooling our extensive resources, we believe that CPG and ISMM in tandem will represent a leading independent sports licensing operation, with expertise and a significant presence in key world markets."

CPG yesterday reported a sevenfold rise in pre-tax profits to £427,000 for the six months to October 31, and an 18 per center rise in sales to £10.7 million. Earnings per share rose threefold to 1.81p. No dividend will be paid.

ohann Rupert happily lit up a cigarette to celebrate the announcement of his deal with BAT yesterday. Whatever the weed may be doing to his health, it has been the makings of the Rupert family fortunes and he clearly believes it can continue to he so. Far from stubbing out to be so. Far from stubbing out their interest in the tobacco business, the Ruperts will be holding on to a 35 per cent interest in the

enlarged company.
The stock market shares their assessment of the opportunities for the combined businesses, sending BAT shares skywards as the deal was announced. Its ernergence as a neat fait accomp-li was in sharp, and impressive, contrast to the leaked news that Enterprise Oil and Lasmo are trying to effect a liaison, an admission which will presage a period of increased uncertainty for both companies. But the BAT deal has the benefit of being made from a position of relative strength.

position of relative strength.

Martin Broughton is not messing around trying to concoct an artificial merger for appearance sake. BAT is taking over Rothmans International, and rather than duck and dive to try to avoid the worst attacks of acquisition accounts to the control of the control tion accounting is taking them on the chin. The BAT board suspects that investors will be grown up enough to shrug off the apparent horror of having to amortise goodwill estimated at an astronomical £5 billion and in-

A happy Rupert goes into BAT

benefits to come from the deal. So confident was the company that this deal was the right one to do that it did not bother with the increasingly common pre-mar-keting round of major shareholders, aimed at softening them up for the excitement to come.
Investors have reason to trust

Mr Broughton's judgment. Rarely has a demerger increased shareholder value as rapidly as the splitting of BAT into its two component parts. Tobacco might be rather less fashionable than financial services but Mr Broughton was bravely determined to blow the smoke away and have a business clearly focused on Sir Waher Raleigh's legacy. He knows that while the West may be cutting back on cigarettes, the world is a big place. Even in these difficult economic times, cigarettes are winning new addirts in the far-fitting spots. new addicts in the far-flung spots that BAT supplies. With the Rothmans brands, BAT will be able to hold on to these customers as they trade up and puff on higher-

margin products. Mr Rupert might not have been so keen to hitch his fortunes to BAT this time last year but the major settlement in the drawn-out US litigation has altered the



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

any business but particularly so for an investment bank. Never

mind what the clients think, the

And if there was ever any doubt that Mr Corzine was being blamed, then yesterday's news should have dispelled it. For he is

now giving up his chief executive

role to concentrate "on issues pertaining to creating a successful public offering".

Few would envy him the task, although the rewards of success

would clearly be great. But even if he succeeds in bringing Gold-man to market before Wall Street

comes to its senses, he cannot re-

store all the glamour which, rightly or wrongly, rubbed off the firm last auturn. The early valuations of around \$30 billion

may have been unsustainable

but now the figure is seen as clos-

er to \$20 billion and that boils

down to a significant loss for eve-

ry Goldman parmer. With Mr Cornine consigned to

ibes from competitors do get you

ويحذار من الميمل

picture drastically. A charge of about \$750 million is nasty but

There will be regulatory hurdles ahead but they are not insurmountable: the over-powering presence of Phillip Morris pro-vides a useful counter to most ac-cusations of BAT having too great a market share. Deputy chairman. Kenneth Clarke, should be confident enough to en-joy a celebratory puff on a cigar.

Corzine takes the rap at Goldman

Seeing the prospect of huge windfall gains being snatched away from under their noses tends not to bring out the best in people, even million-aire investment bankers. So it was that some of the heavily remunerated partners of Goldman Sachs were not in the best of humours last autumn when the planned flotation of the firm was

aborted. There were suggestions that unkind things were being said behind the back of chief executive Jon Corzine about his unseemly handling of the affair.

The demeanour of those who had seen their paper wealth soar as high as \$50 million but then sink back into a potential never land was hardly improved when the market shudder which had scared Goldman into dropping the float was rapidly reversed. Where might Goldman's share rating be now had it only been brave enough to push ahead with its plans?

Goldman's own investment guru, Abby Cohen, had been un-timeningly bullish about the market. She has now been rewarded with a partnership but, had the firm had more faith in her fore-casting, her fellow partners might be enjoying the benefits now, with Wall Street teetering at record levels.

The apparent bungling of its own flotation is damaging for

purgatory, John Thornton is the man in the ascendant. He had never favoured flotation, which would inevitably change the unique nature of the bank. For that judgment, his partners are clearly prepared to forgive him the little matter of his chairman-ship of Laura Ashley.

Lips sealed with DTI fudge

o much for government accountability.

The Post Office bought a German business yesterday us-ing taxpayers' money. We don't know how much because neither the organisation nor the Department of Trade and Industry will say. But they gleefully boast that they will be doing this again as the Post Office embarks on an in-

ternational spending spree.

The secrecy with which public money is being spent is the first demonstration of the fudge that is government policy on the Post Office's future. Peter Mandelson. then Trade and Industry Secretary, doomed the Post Office to muddle last month when be said it should have greater commer-cial freedom but be kept in public

ownership. We have no idea of the spending limits that the Post Office will be bound by, despite it having executed its first deal.

Government money for commercial enterprise is not new: the DTI gives launch aid for developments — such as Rolls-Royce's new engine family — at competitive rates and in long-term ar-rangements which would not be available from a bank. But the secrecy is new - launch aid is put in the public domain, as it should

The veil over the Post Office's international aspirations is compounded by the fact that we are not even to know how much the whole deal costs, let alone the tax-

payers' contribution.

And this from a Government that has pledged transparent regulation of the Post Office.

Uncomfortable Reid

SIR Bob Reid and his team at Sears are struggling to conclude details of the sale of the group's credit card business so that there will be some good news to allevi-ate the bad in tomorrow's trading statement. The real gloom is likely to be in the figures from Freemans, the catalogue retailing business which Sir Bob was prevented from off-loading to Littlewoods. The energetic Philip Green is still waiting in the wings to pounce on Sears and Sir Bob will need some imaginative

Forecasts are sliced as Tomkins edges ahead

I radio Grouph

May Purkers

TOMKINS, the conglomerate with products ranging from car transmission belts to Hovis bread, has encountered "pro-gressively more challenging" trading prompting analysts to slice into their forecasts.

The shares, which have fallen from 340p last summer, slipped another 13p to 228/4p. Andrew Hollins, analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, has reduced his full-year profit forecast from £520 million to £490 million. This could be the first year that won't in-crease profits," he said. There are not many bits of the business that are going to be better second half than first."

First-half pre-tax profits came in at £220.1 million, a Tise of only 2.4 per cent. However, even this improvement is after setting aside the £40 million provision for the loss that Tomkins will make on four Spillers flour mills that the De-partment of Trade and Industry has forced it to sell.

The group's industrial and automotive engineering division, centred on Gates; has seen sales to agricultural, heavy construction and other industrial customers "fall away".
Operating profits, which

Slow progress: Greg Hunchings could see Tomkins full-year profits stand still or even decline

rose 8.8 per cent to E77.8 mil-sumers "trade down" to cheaplion, were also held back by losses in automotive hose manufacturing in Europe and by depressed demand in Asia.

The food division improved ver. US sales are growing, but profits by 14.6 per cent to £71.4 the UK and South African busimillion, helped by strong growth in sales to McDonald's and by the recent "excellent" acquisitions of Le Pain Croustillant and Martine Specialities . which make frozen part-baked bread. But analysts worry that the division. will struggle to maintain profit margins at 7.4 per cent if con-

er bread because of recession. creased profits 5 per cent to company will announce us octobe 9 million on reduced turno cision in July.

Mr Hutclings said Tom-Construction components in-

nesses face tough conditions. Smith & Wesson, the handgun firm that earned Tomkins its "buns to guns" tag, looks increasingly likely to be sold after suffering a "significant decline" in sales and profitability. Tomkins is reviewing the future of its professional, gar-den and leisure products division, which represents only 3 per cent of group sales. Greg Hutchings, chairman, said the

kins regularly reviews the possibility of moving to the US to try to improve the rating of its out-of-favour shares, but such a move was "not yet" suitable. Tomkins has £500 million or so for add-on acquisitions. The interim dividend rises 14.3 per cent to 4p a share.

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SEC fines Wall Street firms \$26m

By A CORRESPONDENT

THE Securities & Exchange Commission fined 28 Wall Street firms more than \$26 million (almost £16 million) and suspended 5t traders, bringing an end to a five-year-old legal hattle.

The deal with the brokerage houses closes the Government's charges that the firms duped customers by. among other things, failing to provide the best prices for stocks traded on the Nasdaq market and failing to hon-

our posted stock quotes.

The SEC found that the firms, through their marketmakers, intentionally delayed trade reports and failed to honour quoted prices.

Hardest hit by the SEC was PaineWebber, the retail

brokerage. It was ordered to pay \$6.7 million in civil penalties and any illegal profits.

Pace moves into the black after year of turmoil

PACE Micro Technology, the manufacturer of set-top boxes for digital television broadcasters, yesterday said it had moved back into the black during the six months to November 28 after more than a year of turmoil.

The company, which yester-day admined that its future prospects were almost entiredependent on the successful launch of digital television services throughout the world, reported profits of E8.3 million, compared with losses of £12.3 million.

Sales rose to nearly £100 million, up from £87 million, and earnings per share climbed to 2.6p, compared with losses of 5.8p.

However, Pace added that sales had been hit by economie turmoil in South America and the Far East, and that it could be "difficult to sustain" its improved 26 per cent margins. Shares in the company fell 2p to 91.5p, compared with a low of 25.5p last year and a high of 241.5p after its flotation in 1996.

Pace manufactures set top boxes for Britain's first two digital television services, Sky-Digital (run by BSkyB) and ONdigital (run by Carlton and Granada), BSkyB is 40 per cent owned by News Inter-national, owner of The Times. The company also provides

the technology for integrated digital television sets and plans to build high-speed cable modems into some of its future products.

Pace said that an interim dividend of 0.25p would be paid on April 9.

ICG helps Regal to buy rival

BY DOMINIC WALSH

REGAL Hotel Group has joined forces with Interme-diate Capital Group (ICG). the mezzanine finance specialist, to acquire County Hotels in a deal valuing its rival at £115.5 million. A new 50-50 joint ven-

ture company set up by Re-gal and ICG is paying £42.5 million in cash for the 25-strong chain and as-suming £73 million of debt. Regal is to lend £30 mil-lion to the joint venture and will manage County's prop-erties in return for 20 per

cent of operating profits. The three-star chain is being sold by Duke Street Capital, the venture capitalist that led its £91 million buyout from Queens Moat Houses in 1997.Regal al-ready operates five hotels in a joint venture with ICG.

Warning as RCO advances

RCO Holdings, the sup-port services group, yester-day called 1998 a "watershed year" but gave warn-ing that employment legis-lation and economic downturn would "create a degree of uncertainty in the rate of growth and margin

The company has now established itself in the NHS Private Finance Initiative market with the signing of the Calderdale contract to develop Halifax

General Hospital.
The group showed a pre-tax profit of £t.8 million for the year to October 2. against a profit of £1.2 miltion for the 53-week period in 1997, on a furnover of £57.6 million (£55.6 million). Earnings were 11.64p a share (7.73p) and a final dividend of op brings the year's total to 10p (16p).

Logica bank deal Logica, the computer con-sultancy, will today announce a £4 million contract with Barclays Bank to provide systems support for its PC online banking services. Logica will provide services including production, test and development as well as operation of the live system and help-desk services. It has also secured a £2.9 million contract to Radio-Mobil, a Czech mobile phone company.

BAA shares dip Shares of BAA fell 4p to 714p yesterday even though the privatised airport opera-tor confirmed it is considering demerging its Lynton property subsidiary. If the proposal is approved, BAA will list it on the stock market as a company worth more than £500 million.

Fyffes unveils £400m acquisition war chest

£400 million war chest that it intends to use purchasing smaller rivals across Europe and to complete a large acquisition by the end of the year. The fruit and vegetable im-

porter, which distributes one in every five bananas sold in the UK, said it intends to com-

FYFFES has revealed it has a mand similar market shares in potatoes and other fruit. Carl McCann, deputy chair-man, whose brother, David, is chief executive, said the company had no debt and £43 million sitting in the bank.

... He said: "Deal, deal, deal — that's the idea. We'd like to do more deals and the bigger the



David McCann, left with Frank Gernon, finance director

better. The cash is there and with interest rates going down, the return is no good unless you can turn it into deals."

Last month, Fyffes agreed to acquire a 50 per cent stake in rival Capespan International for £51 million and a 10 per cent stake in its parent company which markets the Cape and Outspan labels.

Based in the Republic of Ire-land. Fyffes returned its results in euros — becoming the first London-listed company to do so, its pre-tax profits rose by an expected 15 per cent to £78.9 million (£55.7 million) for the year to October 31. Earnings rose 2t per cent to t6.2

It is again taking advantage of Irish tax breaks on divi-dends to lift the payout 25 per cent to 3.71 cents per share, making a total of 3.58 cents, up from 2.90 cents.

Mild weather prompts warning from Kwik-Fit

BY FRASER NELSON

KWIK-FIT has issued its first profits warning for six years, hlaming a mild winter for allowing motorists to survive December without needing new tyres or car batteries.

The company, Britain's largest service station network with 850 outlets, said its winter "seasonal uplift" had not appeared - "perhaps due to weather".

The shares lost 14 per cent of their value yesterday, as bro-kers prepared for the downturn to continue into January and February. Graeme Bissett, who be-

came finance director three months ago, said that much of the lost business should be recaptured later in the

He said: Bad weather normally focuses people's minds to replace tyres and batteries sooner rather than later. But we are not a discretionary purchase, so we have some degree

The ten months before December had been strong, he said, with an overall increase in the number of cars serviced. However, the three winter months are usually the most

Analysts who were expecting pre-tax profit of £62 million for the year to February 28 are now forecasting [57 million.

The shares closed 731/p down at 462p - their sharpest one-day fall since Kwik-Fit's last profits warning in 1992.

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City sets its sights on next takeover targe

SPOTTING the next takeover target ripe for plucking has become the latest game in the Square Mile - and there are no shortage of likely candidates among second-liners.

Take Thistle Hotels. Last year the group received a bid approach when the shares were trading about the 200p level. The market anticipated an offer worth 250p a share, but the talks broke down. The price closed last night un-changed at 1174 p. The company remains vulnerable.

First Leisure also stood out with a jump of 304p to 232p amid vague talk of a bid from Laminar, However, the rise in the Luminar share price, 221/2p to 680p, suggests that the market believes any such bid will come from other sources, possibly a venture capitalist, or

even Bass, up 11½p to 879½p. Sears, the troubled high street retailer, surged 34p to 289p in the belief that Philip Green had finally raised the finance to launch an offer worth 300p a share. Others claim Sears may tempt shareholders to remain loyal by offering a payout of 130p a share.

Cordiant, the advertising agency demerged from Saatchi & Saatchi last year, surged 231/2p to a high of 146p amid suggestions that a bid may be on the way from US rival True North Communications.

Grey Communications, the US advertising group, is said to be preparing to bid for Saatchi & Saatchi, up 8p to 130½p. Grey has long been interested in buying another advertising network and was an underbidder when GGT Group bought BDDP 18 months ago.

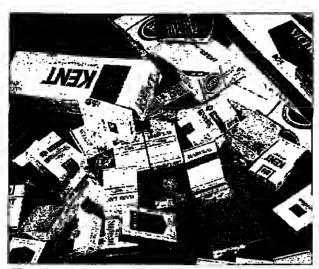
Charter has slumped from nearly 800p in the past year. It rallied 13p to 350p yesterday with traders talking of a bid approach soon.

Shares of Rexam, the former Bowater paper company, has seen its shares slump from 320p reflecting the downturn in the paper industry worldwide. It makes the company vulnerable to takeover. The price rose 6p to 188p on turnover of 3 million shares.

An early mark-up on the back of the latest flurry of corporate activity soon gave way to profit taking. Share prices chose to consolidate profits.

The FTSE 100 index came

within a whisker of its record



The union of Rothmans and British American Tobacco, up 84p to 625p, would create the world's third-largest tobacco maker

week, before moving into reverse. Down 84 points, at one stage, it closed 62.2 down at 0.085.0. Total turnover was

898 million shares. The proposed £13 billion merger between British American Tobacco, up 84p to 625p. and Rothmans, led to hopes that bidders may emerge for Imperial Tobacco, up 7p to

high of 6,195.6, achieved last week, before moving into rethree in the world after Philip Morris and that could spell trouble for both Imps and Gallaher, down 3p to 405%p.

☐ GILT EDGED: Bond price

es suffered a sell-off during af-

ternoon trading as they fol-lowed the US market lower.

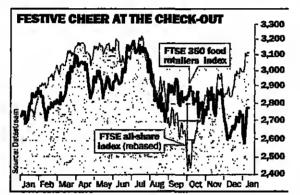
The biggest falls were seen among longer-dated issues

where losses stretched to al-

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt fell 40p to

most £1.

A wave of speculative buy-ing chased Sinclair Healthcare 23p to 1361/2p before the company announced it had received a number of approaches that could lead to a bid.



A FEW crumbs of comfort were offered to investors by the food retailers.

William Morrison Supermarkets, up 10½p at 307½p. has reported that sales in the five weeks to January 3. were up 14.5 per cent on the previous year.

and five acquisitions, sales during the Christmas period were up S.3 per cent with like-for-like sales in the 48 weeks to date up 3 per cent.

Excluding five new stores

provide some cheer for brokers who have been fretting about a sales slowdown

over Christmas and the New Year. The news from Morrison also coincided with an upbeat report on the sector from Credit Lyonnais, the broker, which has moved to "overweight".

It has raised Safeways, 14p up at 2834p, and Alldays, steady at 1841/2p, from "add" to "buy".

Asda, down 31/4p at 160p. is moved from "reduce" to Morrison and Somerfield, 8p cheaper at 450½p.

(200 · 100

	Nides Average
	Hang Kong: Hang Sang10634.27 (-80.45)
on the	Amsterdam: AEX Index
JII LIIC	Sydney: A02849.4 (-6.9)
cota	Frankfurt DAX5270.80 (-122.24)
gets	Sizgapore: Statis1543.08 (-2.10)
BUPA has been leading the	Brassels: 89.203540.30 (-33.86)
way forward in a consolida- tion of the healthcare market.	Parks: CAC-404201.90 (-43.52)
Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries retreated 20p to	Zurich: SKA Gen
490p after rejecting the Pac- Man bid from Marston. Thompson & Evershed, off 5p	London: FT 303641,2 (-21.9) FTSE 1008086.0 (-82.2)
at 2971/2p. Wolves's own bid of £262 million for Marston's re-	FTSE 2504982.0 (+5.6) FTSE 3502864.3 (-24.4) FTSE Eurotop 1002862.92 (-46.10)
mains on the table. Arcadia continued to	FTSE All-State 2762.73 (-21,95) FTSE Non Financials 2818.31 (-17,19) FTSE Fixed Interest 157.42 (-0,12)
bounce along the bottom with a fall of 8p to 147%p in the	FTSE Govt Secs
wake of a profits warning be- fore Christmas. Now there are fears that trading continued to	SEAO Volume 898.8m US\$ 1.5400 (-0.0001) Euro 0.7034 (-0.0005) Euchange Index 98.0 (-0.2)
decline over the festive period. On-Line saw its shares virtually double from 16½p to 29½p.	Bank to England official close (4pm) 1.1715 C-SDR 164.4 Nov (3.0%) Jan 1987 = 100 RPX 162.0 Nov (2.5%) Jan 1987 = 100
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Willy. TIRES MINW OF DO TOMOTH	The second secon			
	Andrew Control of the Control			
for such a rise. But that did not stop David Crump, a director, buying 2,500 shares at 25p. It was the first day of trading over on Ofex for Easy-screen, which provides dealing systems for the futures and option markets. The price opened at 166p after a placing of six million shares before closing at 210p, its best of the day, a premium of 43p. Keep an eye on Cortecs, up 5p to 184p, which saw its shares slump from 1954p after a boardroom bust up last year. Word is Nomura, the Japanese securities house, last week	Collective Assets Trust Flancial Objects First Active Five Aows Uts Cv Ln 2040 Marley B Noti Bidg Mils Cv Pf Natural Building Mils Piccagilly Growth Ts REMAM B (100) Sänger & Frd AliM VCT Willington Xenova Warrants Yeomen II Equily Units	121'2 117'5 117 277 348'2 129 11 105 5. 97 96 100 77'2 15 96'2	++ +11	
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5p to 184p, which saw its				•
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shares slump from 1954:p after	Sanger & Frd AIM VCT	100	:	
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			. '	١
Word is Nomura, the Japanese			-	
securities house last week	Yeoman & Equity Units	362.	+	
	Yeoman 8 Inv Tst Cap	6		
picked up a line of three mil-	Yeoman & lov Tst Inc		•	
lion shares, or 2 per cent, over-			.+	
hanging the market. It may be	Yeoman II Zero Div Pt	1124	+	
hanging the market, it may be				

looking to build up a 10 per cent stake in the company.	
Support in a narrow market also boosted Airtech 6%p to	EMAP n/p (875) . 215 .+
29%p. Trading is said to have picked up after a poor first half	Recognition Systems n/p (9) 512 . SKD Media n/p (15) 114 .
and word is the company, which supplies components to the mobile phone industry,	
may soon be tempted to re- lease an upbeat statement.	RISES:

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١	Planit 36	+ 52	+
ı	Hozelock34312	+ 51	+
	FALLS:	٠.	
Į	Stock Close	Chag	C
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١	Capital Corpn5912	- '7"	_
	Chi-te-la-Carried For		-

E119.24 as 22,000 contracts
were completed. In the cash
market, Treasury 8 per cent
2021 fell 88p to £150.61, while
in shorts Treasury 7 per cent
2002 was 2p off at £107.91.
NEW YORK: Blue chips
sagged amid worries about
the dollar. At midday the Dow
Jones industrial average was
down 69.25 points to 9,574.07.

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New York (midday): Dow Janes	1
Tokyo: Nikim Average13368.46 (-23.33)	
Hang Kong: Hang Seeg10634.27 (-80.43)	ŀ
Amsterdam: AEX Index	1
Sydney: A02849.4 (-6.9)	1
Frankfurt DAX5270.60 (-122.24)	
Singapore: Snats1543.08 (-2.10)	
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There is a a quick £20 mil-lion to be gained selling the .5054-1,5064

Take a look at the Mirror

WITH confusing leaks and spin-doctoring that would not disgrace new Labour, it would be easy for investors to throw up their hands in horror and wonder whether the question marks hanging over the future of Mirror Group will ever be resolved.

Beneath the claim and counter-claim lies a bare truth that Trinity and Mirror Group need each other. Both need to be larger and benefit from economies of scale in a media world increasingly dominated by large, international players. The strategic fit cannot be faulted and the two could create a group of national and regional newspapers, magazines and exhibitions that could at least aspire one day to look a bit like Associated Newspapers.

David Montgomery, the Mirror chief executive, has never received full credit for the way he modernised the business and extended its

reach beyond national newspapers. But the reach beyond nanonal newspapers, but the sentiment running against Mr Montognery is such that he is unlikely ever to get the recognition he deserves, and until he moves on Mir. ror shares are likely to meander.

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Moreover, Mirror shareholders (including Phillips & Drew with 22 per cent) want the deal to be done. They have had enough of the share price underperformance and are eager to see value unlocked. It is difficult to see Mirror shares reaching the 248p scaled after And Springer expressed acquisition interest last year. But there is a good chance of growth

from 166p yesterday. It is time for the posturing to stop and to Trinity and Mirror to complete this deat. The logic demands that it is done. Such is the momentum, in fact, that there shares could be bought for a quick turn.

ECC

ANDREW TEARE is yet to be replaced at Rank, the entertainment group from which he was unceremoniously ejected last November. But if Rank's fate is anything like that endured by English China Clays since Mr Teare left in 1995. shareholders should be pitied. Now predominantly a sup-

plier of whitener to the paper industry, ECC is caught in a horrible pincer. First, there is dentiful supply of both kaolin, the natural raw material, and its synthetic substitute. Secondly, the main customers for the product - paper mak-

ers - are flat on their backs. In the past five years earnings have gone nowhere. The management at ECC says it has not been given a chance to prove itself capable of building higher-margin speciality materials and chemicals

businesses. The idea is to use

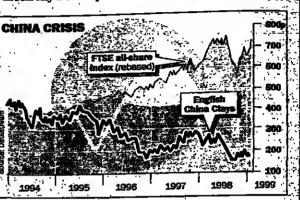
the cash-generating abilities of the low-margin commodity side to develop the more exciting opportunities. ECC also reckons the £680 million Imetal bid, announced yesterday. undervalues ECC's reserves

of superior quality kaolin. ECC shareholders will be forgiven for losing patience. Imetal, its French competitor, is in scarcely a better position

exit this sad industry altogether. ECC management, which looks to have had its nose put out of joint with Imetal going public before it had chewed over a preliminary approach may yet recommend the bid There could be more, to squeeze from Imetal, but a graceful surrender is best.

but it is offering cash, which

means ECC shareholders can



Lasmo

LADEN with debt. Lasmo is in greater need of a merger partner than Enterprise Oil, its former foe. But the chances of a deal were looking slim yesterday. More probable is the intervention of a third party. A medium-sized integrated European or American oil company could top up its re-serves at a cost of \$3\$4 per. barrel by buying Lasmo and taking on its debt. That compares with an average find-ing cost for US companies of

\$5 per barrel via the drill bit. Both managements recognise the risk. Doubtless this is the reason why they have eauty in one anfor doing someore pressing than asmo/Enterprise not provide the

k bit of cost cut-

company Jag. and sacking a geologist or two, but this does not provide shareholders with a long-term solution. They want a more stable business, more resilient to oil price volatility and that means joining a different league. Both Enterprise and Lasmo need to be part of a larger company with a better spread of assets. They also need management that can see beyond the current oil .

Both Lasmo and Enterprise shares should continue to benefit from takeover speculation.

Tomkins -

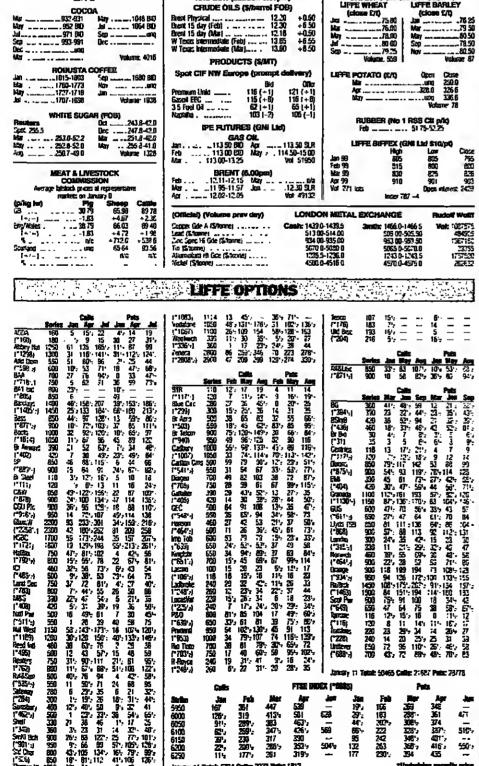
TOMKINS has done, the trendy things. It has em-braced share buybacks and got itself focus. But its shares. remain unloved and are now only 25p above the 203p low they hit in 1994.

This is a poor reward for years of consistent growth. Yet a change in sentiment looks unlikely when cracks are starting to appear. Pre-

tax profit growth has slowed to just 2.4 per cent. Tomkins has shared in the strength of the US economy, which provides half of group sales. But its industrial and automotive engineering division is being hit. Construction components, a division dependent on the US housing market, is OK so far, but the scope for further reductions in profit

forecasts is clear. Food manufacturing is in good shape but, again, margins could prove vulnerable if the UK moves into recession. And then there is the embarrassment of having to make a £40 million provision against the enforced sale of flour mills bought for £97 million

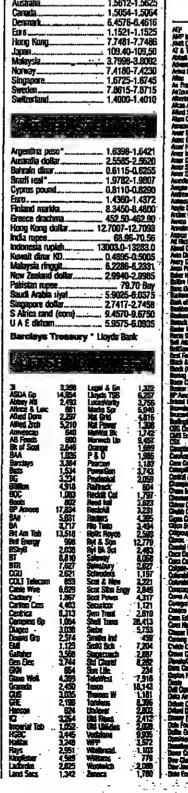
only last March. Still, the falling price of manufacturing acquisitions should bring the best out of Tomkins's management. The shares trade on less than 10 times earnings — attractive



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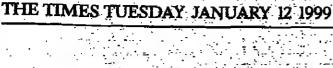
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Future bright unless Europe is set on kamikaze mission

The world is unlikely to

return to a

pre-Keynesian age of

innocence

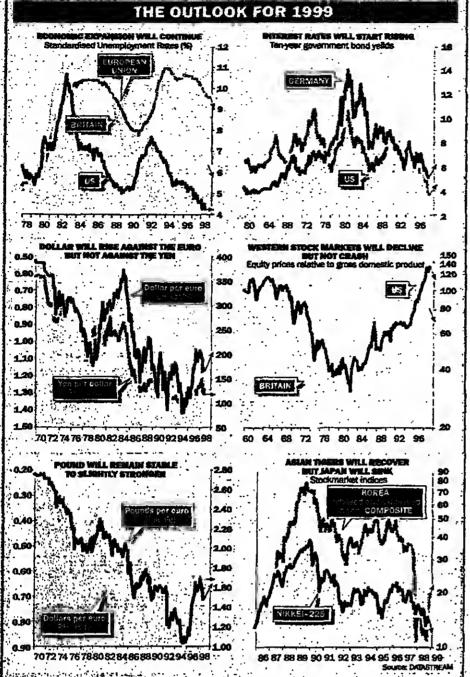
fter preparing the crystal-ball gazing in which I indulged today, I glanced back to the way this nge was laid out last year. I rible realisation. Of the six charts I have presented on the right, four are virtually identical to the ones that were pub-

lished here exactly a year ago. Last January 1 felt even more confident than I do today that the dollar would strengthen against the euro, that the pound would prove "surprisingly stable", that long-term in-terest rates would start rising and that "the bears would take charge" on Wall Street and the other main Western stock markets. Only one of these four predictions — the one about the pound - turned out to be anywhere near right. So how a I now repeat the same

Shouldn't I adjust my opin-ions, in the spirit of Keynes's celebrated rejoinder: "When the facts change, I change my mind. What do you do, Sir? And what if this year's predictions do turn out to be right? Won't I be guilty of simply applying the "stopped clock" the ory of forecasting: the principle that if you keep saying the same thing for long enough, a time will eventually come when you seem to be exactly

right?
These are all potentially valid criticisms. I will therefore d a big qualification to all my predictions this year. The views presented below are even more than usually subject to revision because 1999 is a year that could move along two very different paths. It could be a year of strong co-nomic recovery and falling unemployment for most parts of the world - and my hunch is that this is how things will turn out. Most of the conditions are now firmly in place for a healthy rebound, especially in countries where econompessimism and consumer and business retrenchment at the end of last year reached irrational extremes.

prime example of this syndrome was Britain. Subject to the qualifications explained below, I certainly expect the British economy in recover and unemployment to resume its fall around the middle of 1999. My hunch, in fact, is that the worst is already over and the UK economy will grow by 1.5 per cent or more. With interest rates falling and the City bene-fiting from the revival in finan-cial confidence, figures for consumer spending could start to surprise on the upside from now on. Another unexpected boost for Britain will come from the City's growing domiexpect. My guess is that Britward shift in worldwide longn' pe of the unified European ish base rates will bottom at term interest rates. These are



don's position as the financial. centre of Europe has nothing to do with whether the bankers and dealers buy their sandwiches with euros or pounds. (On the other hand, the rapidly improving gastronomic quality of the sandwiches available in the City has been a ma-

I also expect the US economy to remain much stronger. than expected. The OECD has just predicted that US growth will fall from 3.5 per cent in 1998 to 1.5 per cent this year. This forecast could be beaten by as much as a full percentage point, just as it was last year. The upward momentum of US consumption, investof US consumption, invest the long-expected bear mar-ment and income growth reker? I think it will. mains strong and I see no reason why this should be reversed even if the stock market falls quite sharply, which I think it eventually will.

Of course, every silver lining has a cloud behind it. If I

am right about the unexpected. strength of the world economy, then interest rates, particularly in Britain and America, will not fall as far as markets will not fall as far as markets should be reflected in a big up-expect. My guess is that Britism and shift in worldwide long-

er figures predicted by most City analysts. This means that the pound is more likely to rise a bit than to fall, at least against the euro. American rates are unlikely to fall any further at all."

Whether and when American rates will start rising is the great imponderable which will determine the fate of Wall Street and all other financial markets. I suspect that the Federal Reserve will move to a tightening bias, without actually raising rates, sometime in the spring. This could be the event that sets off another stock market correction. But will this finally turn out to be

nce the market decides that the US and world economies are growing more strongly than expected and that interest rates are rising, there will be a strong sense that this is a decisive turn in the economic cycle and not just a temporary blip. This

main not just low but non-existent — and not just for the next few years but forever. I think this is extremely improb-

Having discovered that re-

cessions can be prevented by

demand - management and

that money can be printed at will, I think the world is unlikely ever to return to a pre-Keynesian age of innocence, when prices were as likely to fall as to rise. If bonds turn, then equity prices will certainly fall even more sharply. The bear market in equities will not be caused by fears of recession. as assumed last summer. Instead investors will decide that stratospheric valuation levels cannot be sustained in a world

of higher interest rates. I do not, however, expect the setback in equities to be particularly catastrophic. I reject com-pletely the view that Wall Street is in some kind of Japanese-style bubble. Latter-day examples of Tulip Mania certainly abound among the Internet stocks, most of which will end up literally worthless, but shares in established American, British and European companies should start to look

attractively valued again after a 40 per cent fall, typical of past bear markets. And before the bear market begins, perhaps in the summer, leading equities could easily rise by another 10 per cent.

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So far I have focused on Britain and America, but the prospects for continental Europe and Asian emerging markets are also potentially good. The Asian "tigers" are now clearly recovering. Given a fair wind from America and Europe this should continue. Europe, if it had the right policies, could grow rapidly for years, easily halving its present 11 per cent rate of unemployment. What are the "right" policies for Eu-rope? Changes in employment practices, deregulation and tax reform are needed but by far the most important policies that could rapidly reduce imemployment are the ones that the politicians of euroland have handed over to the unaccountable and largely inexperienced bureaucrats who now run the European Central Bank: further urgent reductions in interest rates and, above all, a determined effort to push the euro gradually but significantly lower against the dollar and yen.
If the ECB adopted such

pro-growth policies, the accelerating growth and falling unemployment in Europe would largely deal with the biggest structural problems hanging over the world economy - the huge imbalances of trade and savings between America, Japan and the EU.

The same could be even more true of Japan, but the Japa-Covernment has wasted another year with half-hearted implementation of economically illiterate policies. It is now probably too late, both economically and politically, to hope that anything can be done this year to reverse what Richard Medley, financial markets. One of my 5.5 or 5.75 per cent, rather than side bets for 1999, is that peof the 5 per cent discounted in fully realise that Longue tures markets, or the even low-assume that inflation will redeath spiral." As the spiral continues, the yen will remain malignantly hard and the Nikkei will sink to new lows.

The greatest danger facing the world economy in 1999 is that European policymakers will now make the same mistake as the Japanese. Instead of acting immediately to guarantee continuing growth in curoland, the ECB may wait un-til it is too late. If this happens, then euroland could easily be caught in a Japanese-style spiral, with an overvalued currency investment and employ ment to collapse, which in turn causes bigger trade sur-pluses and pushes the curren-

cy even higher.

This brings me back to the caveat I mentioned at the start. If the euro continues to appreciate against the dollar in the first few months of its exist-ence, the already grim indus-trial conditions in Europe and especially in Germany could deteriorate very fast. If this is allowed to happen, I will have to conclude that the ECB is set on a Japanese-style kamikaze mission. My entire optimistic scenario for the world economy will have to be torn up.

PlayStation stands the test of time in a technological era

he pace of the technolog-ical revolution means that products that are new and exciting today will be duli and old hat in a couple of years' time. As soon as I took delivery of a computer with a 486 chip. Intel brought out the Pentium processors and the Pentium II soon followed. I feel like I'm driving a Model

T Ford. So how come the Sony Play Station is still selling so well? More than three years after it was launched, the PlayStation has just had its best Christmas, selling more than 500,000 consoles in the UK and more than five million worldwide.

This means that there are now more than 35 million PlayStations in the UK and 50 million around the world, representing sales of nearly £10 hillion for Sony's first interactive entertainment product. When you add in the amount that has been spent on games for the consoles, it is easy to see sales of more than £20 billion on PlayStation.

What is perhaps even more startling is that - ignoring pre-paid mobile phones -PlayStation was also the most popular present given in the UK this Christmas. We have all heard about Furbies, the craze of 1998. Well only 350,000 Furbies were sold in the UK this Christmas, 70 per cent of the PlayStation sales. Not only that but PlayStation has been outselling Nintendo 64, its newer and more powerful rival by between two and three to one over recent

So how has Sony done it? The story of PlayStation goes back to 1995, when Sony launched the product in an attempt to break into the lucrative games console market that was dominated by Sega and Nintendo. At the time of the launch, Nintendo was still a year away from launching N64, so Sony only had to wor-ry about Sega Satura, a console that is every bit as good as PlayStation. Yet PlaySta-tion demolished Saturn in the marketplace and it did so for

two reasons.

Firstly, the Sony name, and the structure of the company, helped PlayStatioo immensely. Many of the old Sega and Nintendo users were teemage boys and young men, who were your archetypal "early adaptors" in marketing terms. although others might prefer to call them needs. Sony needed to break out of that group and attract people who were interested in interactive entertainment but were oot sure about it. It used the fact that it had a good brand name in electronics and well-developed distribution channels to try to attack part of the market that Sega and Nintendo had yet to touch.

Secondly. Sony was used to being able to deliver whole entertainment packages. Ever since it lost the Betamax/ VHS battle in the late-1970s, when Sony's superior video re-corder technology failed be-cause it could oot persuade the Hollywood studios to release videos in the Betamax format, it had been developing its entertainment side. It bought a film studio and a record company and used both of these to cement its positioo in the electronics mar-

In computer games it was a



bought Psygnosis, a games maker based in Liverpool, a couple of years before it launched PlayStation. This allowed it to develop games for its oew console, and gave it a good idea of what sold in the games market and how Nintendo and Sega were doing. Critically. Sony allowed all the big games companies access to its computer codes

months before its launch, so that there were 20 important games available on PlayStation within a few weeks of its release. Sega was much more

The fact that so many mes were available on Play-Station has also been one reason for its longevity. The sec-ond is a strategy of continual-ly reducing the sale price, from an original £249 to £99 today. This has been matched by Nintendo 64, but Sony appears to have won this little price battle. The third has been aggressive marketing through television and spon-

ing director for Sony Enter-tainment, reckons that during 1998 Sony spent £20 million promoting PlayStation in the UK. Most of his has been on televisioo advertising, includ-ing the award-winning Dou-ble Lives advert made by TBWA, and a large amount of cross promotion with games makers. This means that when the latest Spiro the Dragon, Lara Croft or Crash Bandicoot game comes out, Sony will devise a joint advert and often will pay for it. The next one coming to our screens is for Metal Gear Solid, the new bit game from Jap-anese group Konami, which apparently incorporates real emotional responses as part of the interactive experience.

Sony has also been spending a fortune on sponsorship In football it has deals with the FA Premier League and the Champions League and it supports underground sports such as snowboarding, skateboarding and inline skating It has also been sponsoring club nights and some music events, though it would steer clear of something as "uncool" as Phil Collins.

The real challenge will come this summer, when Sega launches Dreamcast, the next generation of console, in Europe. Sony does not have a rival to Dreamcast yet, so it will be fighting Sega with one hand behind its back this Christmas. However, given that PlayStation will be a third of Dreamcast's price, and there will be 20 times as many games available, Sega will have a tough task knocking PlayStation off top spot for Christmas 1999.



Crash Bandicoot has benefited from advertising help from Sony

Herr raising

"DOING business in Germany is the title of an internal briefing document sent out to senior managers at Bankers Trust to help them during the merger talks with Deutsche Bank. "The German/American interface in the business world is tricky for

both sides," it begins.
"Americans frequently feel that the
Germans are rigid and authoritariand the Germans find the Ameri-as superficial and often unreliable." Well, that's national stereotypes



A German colleague says some of the advice on etiquette is somewhat. old-fashioned, but it is, I suppose, useful to know that is is rude to tap your forehead in conversation or to arrive more than 15 minutes late for dinner.

The note ends with a section on cultural attitudes - Americans live in the present. Germans are more longterm oriented. "For Germans, a sense of impending catastrophe is nothing unusual," it warns. US-style opi-mism "is equated with naivete". And no, nothing saying don't men-

tion the war.

SO FAR two airlines, and counting, have put themselves forward as the originator of my story on Saturday about Nicola, the foul-mouthed eight-year-old and her unprompted advice to the pilot. British Airways insisted the story, and the pilot, was theirs, although I had my doubts. British Midland is claiming Nicola for their own, from a couple of decades ago. But I have two claims so far for Qantas, and some reliable looking evidence. Any others?



to be presented by Mike Hingston, an old mate of Sir Geoff Mulcahy, chief executive, who has slipped in un-noticed as the director of corporate communications.

Hingston used to be at Kinglisher -during the Dixons bid he even postponed his honeymoon to be around - but left to make a few bob from his

His return has eclipsed the man who was doing the job, because Hingston has been given a seat on the exec-utive committee, where the real power is. So John Eyre is taking early retirement at 59.

This is not the first time Mulcahy, who feels comfortable surrounded by like minds, has re-hired a friend. Diving in

hike minds, has re-hired a friend.
Hingston has a brief to emphasise
TODAY'S trading statement from the European side of Kingfisher — 45

derstand, thinks has been overlooked. Expect the fact to be afforded some prominence today.

Inne keeping

THE Old English Pub Company has been easting around for a new name. Shareholders need not fear a huge bill for image consultants and a sudden. Diageo-style makeover into something mis-spelt and obscure, because the company is merely looking to reflect a growing focus on accommodation.

Barry Warwick, the convivial chief executive, was taken by Old English Inns, but the name has already been nabbed by a publican in Nons. How ever today's trading statement may contain news that Warwick's negotiating skills and a small cheque have proved sufficient.

VIRGIN TRAINS continues to eradicate the last smidgen of goodwill still attached to the Virgin name from Richard Branson's successes elsewhere. Commuters into Euston have been handed a bizarre apology from Chris Tibbits, the managing director, for the state of the rolling

The cleaning equipment is being upgraded. "Unfortunately, this means that for the next few weeks, as we will be cleaning the trains by hand, you may notice that they are not as clean as usual." I think this translates as. Kingfisher, the Woodworth, B&Q and per cent of business comes from out-sorry the trains are so filthy but we've Comet retail combine; will be the first side the UK, a fact that Mulcahy, I un-been cleaning them. Repeat fees

MICHAEL GREEN'S Carlton is set to earn uncounted millions from a pornographic video, I can reveal.

Before Cariton's lawyers book their next expensive holiday, the whole thing is quite legitimate. Disney, as you may have read elsewhere, is having to withdraw 3.4 million copies of The Rescuers because they contain unauthorised images. Technicolor, a Carlton subsidiary, produced them but was in no way at fault. So it gets to do the job again. It's an ill wind . . .

> MARTIN WALLER martin.waller@the-times.co.uk



Green: unexpected video windfall



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CLASSICAL CDS Who spent the best afternoon with Debussy?

Perfect Days

Hampstead

sult is a successful pregnancy,

but one that occurs in so unex-

pected yet so satisfyingly logi-cal a way that you should for-

give me for giving away the plot.

minds about this play. One of

those minds is grateful to Loch-

head for creating several plau-

sible if not-too-deep charac-ters, prime among them Barbs

herself, it is a role that gives

the excellent Siobhan Red-

mond every chance to toss her

mane of red hair and nervily

pace her giant loft, while pro-

jecting the forlorn resilience or

artificially bright desolation of

a woman who, as she re-

marks, "can't see how I can be

pushing 40 when I still don't

know what I'm going to do

I find myself in at least two

THE TIMES





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Mande ...

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bon eran -

Stylish highlights, but needs a trim

But the other mind persist-

invariably go on too long.

Dramatic momentum is not yet Lochhead's strength, nor is

understatement. She needs to

learn to hint, suggest, imply -and not heave thoughts and

feelings at us as if they were ca-

bers and we were spectators at

some Lowland gathering

where prizes are given for ver-

Yet her humanity is not in

doubt. I wondered at times if

she had fully pondered the im-

plications for the child of being

brought up by a mother who

would be 58, busy, and proba-

bly still unmarried or unpart-

nered when he or she reached

t8; but there is plenty in the play to show that she sees the

demands that single parent-

hood will make on Barbs her-

self. After all, there are two oth-

er lone or near-lone mums on

Krapp's Last Tape

bal labour.

ently grumbled at scenes that almost invariably consist of duologues involving Barbs and A.N. Other and absolute-

arbara's biological clock is going tick tock - or, as it sometimes seems in Liz Lochhead's warm, likeable but long-winded comedy, ock tock tock tock tock. She is a Glaswegian, turning 39, separated from her husband Davie, successful enough in her career as a hairdresser to appear in TV makeover programmes. but desperate to have a child. though not necessarily in the old-fashioned way "where the husband is present at the con-ception". What is she to do?

Her mother, a bigoted old trout of whom Barbs is inordinately fond, thinks she should be reconciled with Davie: but he is besotted with a 22-yearold dolly. Barbs herself per-suades a gay friend, Brendan, to donate regular lashings of sperm via a turkey-baster. She also starts an affair with her sister-in-law's son, who was adopted while a tot but has come to Glasgow in search of his long-lost mother. The re-

his Beckett evening is divided into four parts. The first, in which Edward Petherbridge plays Krapp, lasts 45 minutes; the interval extends to about 30; the second Becken piece, Breoth, occupies 35 seconds, after which Petherbridge returns to the stage for what is described "question-fielding" but which on the press night turned out to be a recital of anecdotes mostly to do with

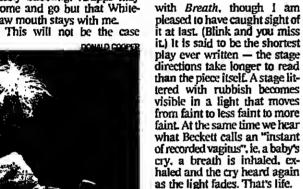
Back in the 1970s Albert Finney's Krapp was mated

Petherbridge himself. An odd



This short,

with the premiere of Not I. 15 or so minutes of searing monologue staged in a pale light in which we could just make out Billie Whitelaw's mouth ceaselessly babbling. Krapps may come and go but that Whitelaw mouth stays with me.



The applause developed out of gulps of laughter, probably recognising Beckett's nerve more than the work itself, which only superficially seems the quintessence of Beckettism. He has finally annihilated both words and action but his best work injects us with

the protagonist's own, irritating mother, Anne Kidd as the friend who gave up her firstborn and is now warily reconciled with him - and both have clearly struggled to make

John Tiffany, who directs,

could do more to quicken the pace, but gets as much as can reasonably be expected from his supporting performers: John Kazek as kindly Brendan, Enzo Cilenti in the somewhat awkwardly written role of Barbs's eager young lov-er, and, above all, Scott-Jones as a mum with loud, blunt opinions and the embarrassing habit of wearing cardies plastered with hearts and tiny Christmas trees or presenting her daughter with lurid ma-genta jerseys festooned with stars. When this feisty figure is onstage the temperature rises. When she is absent it is usually milder than it might be.

> BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE**

short doses of precise, concise

language.
This is his achievement in Krapp. Here a man is marking his 69th birthday by playing the tape he recorded 30 years earlier. Memories of that year surge to the surface, and what Petherbridge conveys so admirably, co-directing himself with David Hunt. is the stillness of the man listening to his younger self, so rashly confident, so blithely unaware of the withering

years ahead. With his wild white hair and raw-nosed face he has the look of a clown stripped of his make-up, defenceless against these assaults from the past. For it is not the sweeps of rhetoric that engage him - he furiously winds the tape past such passages - but the limpid account of drifting in a boat with a girl. Their love affair is reaching its end and, 30 years on, he rewinds the tape again and again to hear his simple, vivid phrases. Beckett gives Krapp no words to express his response but Petherbridge stares into the nothingness of his present day and, within a certain range, we complete the picture of his desolation for

JEREMY KINGSTON

ourselves. That's life.



concerts: Spain meets Russia in Manchester; impressive work from the youngsters; and a centenary salute

Homage to Catalonia

Edward Petherbridge (Krapp) listens to his younger self

Orchestra, Lawrence Foster has taken on a whole new repenoire. Spanish music, Falla above all, he obviously knew before, but Catalan music is something different. So the Spanish and Catalan programme be brought to his concert with the Halle Orchestra in Manchester aroused keen anticipation and nervous apprehension in equal proporrions - the apprehension deriving targely from the feeling that the Tchaikovsky symphony clumsily tacked on at the end would do little or nothing to compensate for the box-office negative represented by the rest of the concert.

in fact, the Bridgewater Hall was far from full. Persuasive publicity might have improved the situation but, bearing in mind that it might also have led to more widespread disappointment with at least one of the Catalan pieces, it is probably as well that it was not applied in this case.

Xavier Montsalvatge's Serenata o Lydia for flute and orchestra was very welcome. even though it is probably more successful in its original flute and piano version. Certainly, one can imagine the introduction for unaccompanied flute, which seemed disproportionately long in these circumstances, making a rather more atmospheric effect in the church at Cadaques where the piece was first performed. But it is resourcefully and delicately scored in this version too and its material is so sensitively adapted to the solo instrument as to inspire a most ac-

Halle/Foster Manchester

formance from the Barcelona flautist Magdalena Martinez. The music director of the

Barcelona SO might, on the other hand, have spared us the Trombone Concerto of Salvador Brotons, which is as crudely put together as the translaoon of the programme note that came with it. It is true that concernos for trombone have always had a built-in disadvantage - which is why there are so few of them - and the problem is all the more acute now that they more or less have to take a variety of extended techniques into account. The Spanish soloist. Ricardo Casero, proved himself equal to the demands of Brotons's Op 70 (not bad going for a composer of 40) but without demonstrating that there is anything distinctive or more than minimally interesting in it. least of all its grotesque and structurally too early cadenza.

If it made good sense to open the concert with three dances from Falla's El amor brujo, it made none at all to end it with Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony — except that the latter work was delivered in a performance that was emotionally and dramatically fresh, particularly well coloured in the scherzo, and secure in the long-standing faith the Halle and Foster have in

Fresh in the memory

ifferent though they all are, a "typical" concert in the PLG Young Artists Series usually consists of several short pieces written sometime between 1950 and last week. But Thursday's event featured a single, massive work composed in the early years of the century: Charles Ives's Concord Sonata, given a hugely impressive performance by Australian planist Mark Kruger.

No work represents the spirit of Ives bet-ter than this sonata, which takes its name from the Massachusetts village that was home to the New England Transcendentalists. Much of it still sounds as modern as ever, especially the long and lofty first movement. Kruger, who played the entire work from memory, unfolded this con-vincingly, showing his command of pianistic colour in everything from the clanging chords to the dusky musings.

If the jazzy and experimental scherzo-like movement that follows offers the listener some relief, it is even more taxing for the performer: Kruger demonstrated hen Francis Pou-lenc and Pierre Ber-nac gave their St

London recital after the libera-

tion of Paris, it was on Pou-

lenc's birthday, January 7,

and it was at the Wigmore

Hall. On the same date and in

the same venue, 54 years on,

the centenary of the compos-

er's birth was celebrated in a

gala concert on Thursday

which, I suspect, would have

He may well have been sur-

prised at the devoted silence

which attended Felicity Lott's

little encore performance of

the slinky Chemin d'amour:

Poulenc always felt that, if he

were remembered at all, it

would be by works like his

Stabat Mater, not by those

echoes of the cafe-concert and

It was, indeed, just those

songs which continue to make

Poulenc a composer the

the music-hall.

pleased Poulenc no end.

all his virtuosity here, before relaxing into the almost folksy beauty of the third move-ment and the hazy finale. He was joined at the close by the flautist Kathryn Thomas, for the nostalgic melody that settles the whole work.

In the main concert of the evening, the Galliard Ensemble wind quintet played four living composers: two were present. one aged 89 and the other 16. Minna Keal's return to composition in the mid-1970s was signalled by her Wind Quintet, a work of bold and sometimes poignant gestures. The fluency of James Olsen's writing in Imbroglio, full of lively ideas and a sometimes quirky lyricism, marks him out as a name to watch.

Birtwistle's first published work. Re-

Pout, patter and profanity

were entrusted to Lott and her pianist Graham Johnson, The Trois poèmes de Louise Lalanne of 1931, and the Metamorphoses of 1943 had Lott pouting, pattering and tra-lala-ing, while Johnson, enjoying the sea-spray of the Reine des muettes and the mischief of Paganini, seemed for all the world like a reincarnation of Poulenc himself, composing

as he sat at the piano. Not a hint of café or cabaret, not a trace of Jacques Trenet was to be heard, though, in the nine sombre prewar settings of the poetry of Paul Eluard in the cycle Tel



time for lan Bostridge. Poulene would surely have been deeply moved at the intense imaginative focus of the young tenor: at the way the lip curled and the pulse fluttered in the angry song about the gypsy wagon, and at the ex-traordinary high half-voice Bostridge sustained in the singing of Une herbe payvre, the weak grass appearing

that were easily met by the Galliards: the capricious textures were handled with the same assurance they brought to Ligeti in the beguiling Six Bagatelies. Ligeti may still have been under the influence of Stravinsky here, but he was already experimenting with unusual tone colour.

Sharing this concert was the French harpist Anne-Sophie Bertrand, an artist of real poise. Her programme included one premiere: the Belgian Franz Geysen's Heptominomania. Based on the number seven, as its title suggests, the piece is a perpetuum mobile that builds from a gen-

tle fluttering to a vigorous end.
Works by Heinz Holliger and Marius Constant brought forth a dazzling display, and the even more extreme contrasts in Carter's Bariolage were shaped cohe-sively in a performance of great beauty. Paul Patterson's Spiders gave Bertrand scope for wit too: she has everything it takes to be a "complete" musician.

JOHN ALLISON

Even with the ballast of these more heartfelt songs, an entire evening of Poulenc song can wear a bit thin. So it was good to have the young pi-amist Steven Osborne on hand to give tenderly witty perform-ances of three of Poulenc's Novelettes. Good, too, to be reminded by the BBC Singers of the composer's skill in choral writing in Un soir de neige and a handful of the folksy Chansons françaises.

And, best of all, the charivari of musical characters which make up the Nash Ensemble were ideally cast, with pianist Susan Tomes and baritone François le Roux, to inhabit the leering masks of Poulenc's "cantate profane". Le bal masqué, with its cracking whip, truculent cornet and clowning woodwind. The concert may be heard on Radio 3 at 7.30pm tonight.

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical recordings,

in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

DEBUSSY: PRELUDE A L'APRES-MIDI D'UN FAUNE Reviewed by

DEBUSSY'S famous Prelude isn't simply a superlative piece of orchestral tonepainting, it is perhaps the most effective of all at-tempts to translate a piece of poetry into musical terms. In Stephane Mallarme's poem L'après-midiaun faune, a young faun submits to lascivious, ultimately biasphemous fantasies as he basks in the full heat of the Mediterranean

Debussy follows the poem quite closely, from the incantation of the faun's pipes (solo flute) at the opening, via the rapt central hymn to the end, where he stretches out his limbs in the sand and "succumbs to noontime's ceremonial si-

Few flautists capture that incantatory quality in the opening flute solo as well as the London Philharmon-ic's Jonathan Snowden in the recording conducted by Serge Baudo (Classics for Pleasure. CD-CFP 6022, £6.99). The continuation quiet ripples of colour from harp, distant horn-calls, and one of the most magical silences in all music - is just as fine. Snowden isn't the only impressive flaurist: there's Michel Debost of the Orchestre de Paris, conducted by Daniel Barenboim, or

performance has a tendency to heaviness. Smith is more a primus inter pares, but the beauty is all rather chaste, as is the performance as a whole — and you won't find much about chastity in Mallarme's poem. Herbert von Karajan's. earlier (and much the finer) DG recording with the Ber-lin Philharmonic appeared in 1965, but it sounds very In this version the central resentable in CD transfer. hymn is very much the high point: magnificent, sumptu-

ous, it rises, crests and falls

the Cleveland Orchestra's

Joshua Smith, as recorded

under Pierre Boulez (both

on DG). But Debost tends

to stand out as the "star" of

the Barenboim version;

when he's not playing the

like an immense wave. Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra (Sony Classical) stir the emotions too. Ormandy's is a version which sings, and it's full of vibrant, truly Mediterranean colours. So too remarkably - is the 1939 recording by the LPO conducted by Thomas Beecham (Pearl). Beecham is never quite as ardent as Ormandy, but there's some exquisite solo playing, and the coda has a poetry of its own. If it had to be one recording though, Id choose Baudo: consistently poetic, beautifully played, in an atmospheric modern recording.

and at budget price.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery. please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 OBR or phone 0345 023498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (Ham): Schubert's Trout Piano Quintel

Last orders in the waste land

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VISUAL ART:

Charles Saatchi

not only financed Neurotic Realism, he also

named it. Richard Cork

views the results.

espite his prodi-gious appetite for the latest art, Charles Saarchi has until now stopped short of naming a new movement. When Damien Hirst, Rachel Whiteread and their contemporaries first appeared at his gallery in the early 1990s, their show was given the non-com-mittal title Young British Art-ists. Its studied neutrality acknowledged that the heyday of ra. Before the First World War, Fauvism. Expressionism. Cubism and Futurism were only the most notorious of the revolutionary groups that erupted during Modernism's most turbulent years. But artists in recent decades have shied away from labels, so the arrival of Neurotic Realism at the Saatchi Gallery is a great surprise.

Equally unusual is the fact that this movement was invented by a collector. From Impressionism onwards, many avant-garde upheavals derived from terms of abuse, hurled by enraged critics or gallery visitors. Only a few groups were named by the artits themselves, and none was the brainchild of a patron who purchased their work. In that respect Saatchi's launching of. Neurotic Realism breaks with historical precedent. It seems to inaugurate a bolder, more open and partisan approach

eurotic Realism is not, however, completely divorced from the artists displayed in the Royal Academy's Sensation exhibition, Martin Maloney, the only painter in this new show, was included in that survey. The overlap exands to the ICA's Die Young Stay Pretty, organism by Maloney last year, Among its was Steven Gontarski, whose sculpture now reappears at the Saatchi Gallery. Die Young Stay Pretty turned out to be a disappoint all the event. But Neurotic Realism: in this first instalment at least.

is far more substantial. Nobody displays more andcalyptic relish than Tomoko Takahashi. Tokyo-born but now based in London, she has been given by far the largest area and handles it with gusto. Viewed from the top of the steps, her mammoth installaon looks like a nightmarishprophecy of chronic millennial malfunction. The entire floor is strewn with detritus scavenged from skips, dumps and friends' attics. Initially, the room resembles a technological graveyard, a wasteland of instant obsolescence. But, as I. scanned the piles of junk, signs of activity began to as-

sert themselves. The bars of a small heater glow orange inside an office drawer. The deck of a recordplayer spins round, carrying watch mechanisms rather than LPs and relaying no sound at all. It is as futile as. TV sets scattered around the room, flickering and buzzing but failing to transmit any coherent images. Although clocks tick on crazily chaotic table-tops, they are incapable of telling the correct time. A glass water-jug bubbles pointlessly on a hot-plate, while a nearby electric fan swivels inside a metal box. The sense of absurdity is reinforced by a grum-



thing spin-orier, vigorously ro-Bill Woodrow's early work, it counts here only as one of a thousand redundant objects.

Encountered on the pavement of a blighted street, they would all be dismissed as rub-bish. Reassembled in this installation, though, they finally take on an unlikely order of their own Takahashi has carved out narrow pathways between the heaps, enabling us to pick a path gingerly through the bedlam. At the same time, though, she con-veys an overwhelming sense of pulverised breakdown. Like the crash-helmet resting up-

- case, or the corner crammed tating with its door open and with fragments from half-nothing inside Reminiscent of crushed bicycles, the space resembles the scene of a cataclysmic accident caused by forces beyond human control.

If Takahashi's contribution manages to sound an end-ofthe century warning, Brian C. Griffiths's roomful of equipment reduces dysfunction to a childlike level. The control consoles lining the walls should be streamlined, gleaming and state-of-the-art, fit for a set in a science-fiction movie. In reality, though, they are made of cardboard boxes joined together with ungainly strips of brown tape. This is Star Trek's starship reconstructed by a side-down; on an abandoned cack-handed, and quite possi-

> impersonal gratification. pursued by love: (left) Gontarski's Lesbians Acquiesce (1998) and Martin

out to be made of pencils or burnt matchsticks gloed on to them plastic plates. Unipped, smeared and stained, these redundant space-age monoliths are at once laughable and forlorn. Long since discarded, they have lapsed into melan-choly and inertia. So far, al-though the presence of human beings has been implied in the exhibition, they remain impossible to detect. But Paul Smith's powerful photographic images focus on people. In Artist Rifle Series, uniformed figures carry out manocuvres informed, no doubt, by

Smith's own army experienc-

es. Moving between beach,

realise that the young men's faces are oddly similar. Using digital techniques; Smith has inserted himself in all of them. Like a demented actor bent on taking every part in the dra-ma, he plays the three soldiers grimly shovelling sand as well as the corpse half-buried below them. Armed with a Stengun, he emerges from a forest tottering under the weight of his own injured body slumped

deranged. DIY devotee.

The clocks and monitors turn

across his shoulders. Sometimes, it is possible to ignore his pervasive presence and simply admire these images as arresting, even alarming

(0171-287 8841) until Feb 13

woodland and swamp, they ap-

pear at first to have a documen-

Soon enough, however, we

tary veracity.

military exercises. But Smith does not allow us to forget him for long. When he appears ten times over as as newed of victorious soldiers cheering their conquest of a burnt-out tank, his sheer recognisability makes the celebrations look like a charade. The play-acting involved in training exercises is here pushed to the point of outright ridicule, and yet the underlying coldness of these lethal rituals is, in a strange way, intensi-

re-creations of death-haunted

fied by Smith's interventions. Both here, and in another series of lager-lout partying called Make my Night, his in-sistence on posing for every fig-ure gives the pictures a demented mood. Whether urinat-

lic cucumber or pouring booze on a mate in the pub. Smith's identical drunken lads eventually take on the galactof enaced.

n this sense, they have unexpected links with the bodies in Steven Gootarski's sculpture. Made of PVC stuffed with polyester wadding, most of his figures are involved in orgiastic coupling. Although their faces are so blank that they verge on the robotic, human details have been added to their shimmering limbs. Matted hair can be detected, along with transfer tattoos and kinky socks hanging off leg-stumps.

ing serves only to stress their creepiness. Whether lunging lustfully at one another or intertwiving at closely that their separate forms are impossible to identify, these libidinous performers are all repellent. One pair, copulating on a Perspex plinth, seem to be sucking their faces into a single, hideously distorted, glutinous mass. For all their voracious concentration on sex, their bodies look so prosthetic that a feeling of futility hangs over even their most acrobatic feats.

Martin Maloucy, at 37 the oldest exhibitor, operates as an éminence grise in Neurotic Realist circles. Here, however, he seems most closely allied with Gontarski's macabre pleasure-hunting. His paintings have grown larger, darker and more erotically explicit. Walking into Maloney's main room is akin to entering a gay club where everyone is hooked on unsafe sex. Tongues hang out, buttocks are brandished and fingers grab hungrily at dangling genitals.

But there is no sign of joy.

The emphasis throughout these deliberately crude, daubed canvases is on impersonal gratification, pursued auto-matically by people devoid of love. Rave culture may be regarded by its participants as heaven, but in Maloney's pan-oramas it looks more like hell. Neurotic Realism Part I at the

Saatchi Gallery, 98A Boundary Road, Londan NW8 (0171-624



Maloney's Sex Club

OTHER EXHIBITIONS IN LONDON AND THE REGIONS

Balloons that speak volumes A CLUSTER of helium balway. But they are not complic-

loons nestle against the ceil-ing. Look closer and you will see that they are comic-strip speech bubbles. But nothing is written on them. Philippe Parreno's artwork is intended as a comment in 3D on the sheer volume and vacancy of a chattering media culture.

But the blank speech bubbles also encapsulate the spirit of Dumbpop. Their silence speaks. And the viewer should be suspicious of the self-deprecation which coyly labels the work of this international proup of artists "dumb". These muse. Sure, they are easily accessible, superficially jolly and decorative in a Sixties sort of ject-matter of his latest show.

it with the consumerism of the pop culture they pretend to represent. Graham Little's sculpture blends minimal Sixties art with its candy-coloured fashions, questioning..., the point of banal enjoyment. Jun. Hasegawa's cartoon teenagers balance between slick-Jerwood Gallery, 171 Union

Street, London SE1 (0171-654 0171), until Jan 17 = IN A month when Monet is at the forefront of the art calendar. Robert Davies makes aninteresting contemporary comment on the great impression-

ist's theme. Water is the sub-



Philippe Parreno's Speech Bubbles at the Jerwood Gallery

Like Monet he studies its almost classical meditation on moods, its rhythms and shim-mer. But Davies's is an up-to-merising. Close up you can see date look. Watching hours of video footage of freshwater on a monitor screen, he takes photographic stills of what he thinks are the best moments. Nature is filtered through technology in what amounts to an Jason & Rhodes, 4 New Burl-

on the front page of Le Figuro. to 1944 when this provocative Italian poet died, more than 300 manifestos were published. Controversial and aggressive, they were intended to incite argument and anger. The exhibition, Zang Tumb Tumb, marshalls a fascinating and typographically impres merising. Close up you can see sive array of manifestos which the pixellations of the screen, are, in many ways, the most the image analysed into lines historically interesting aspect and grids. But take a few steps of this revolutionary move-

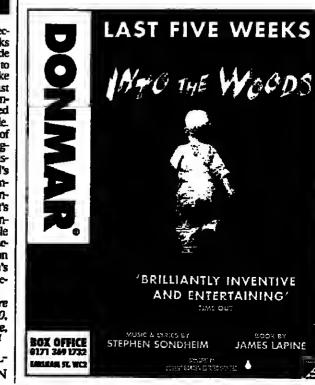
back, and the shadows and rip-

Estorick Collection, 39a Can-onbury Square, London NI ples resolve into almost roman-

THE Arts Council Collecington Place, London WI tion buys some 50 new works a year, attempting to decide which artists are "here to ■ WITH all the ardour of a gang of schoolboys drawing stay". Only posterity can make up the rules of their back-ofthe final judgment. But at least this show offers a fair representhe bikeshed society, the Italian Puturists were continually tation of what has been talked about over the past decade. producing manifestos. From 1909, when Filippo Tommaso Mariaetti shocked the public The organisers find a theme of domesticity to provide a fragile link between pieces as dis-parate as Rachel Whiteread's with an iconoclastic column doorknobs, the only remaining evidence of her now vanished House, Kerry Stewart's unsettling sculpture of a woman performing an impossible balancing act, Anya Gallaccio's candlelit meditation on temporality or Tracey Emin's bedspread, which boldly declares "Here to Stay". Aberystwyth Arts Centre (01970 623232) until Jan 30,

then Metropole Aris Centre, Folkestone, Feb 13-March 14

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON



ARTS

Postman Elvis

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargis

LONDON

FIOMEO AND JULIET. Sylvin Guillert and Jonathan Cope dance the roles of the star-crossed young lovers in the season's first performance by the Royal Ballet of Kenneth Mechalian's Festival Hall (0171-960 4242) Opens

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLAGHTENMENT: Herbert Blom-stedt, music director of the Lerpzig Gewandhaus, conducts the period

Instrument band for the first time. The programme comprises Schubert's



Herbert Blomstedt leads

Second Symphony and Brahms's First Plano Concerto played on an 1875 Bösendorfer by Alexei Lubinario Oueen Elizabeth Hall (6171-980) 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm. 6 THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE: A THE COLOUD OF SUSTICE AN dramstised reconstruction of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. Timed to coincide with this month's publication of the Indings. Probundly relevant. Tricycle (0171-328 1000). Opens tonight, 7pm. 🔊

THE ENGLISH CONCERT: Vireldi, Bach and Marcello receive the period instrument treatment here as Trevor Pinnock directs his internationally acciasmed ensemble. Wigmore Hall (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. (3)

ELSEWHERE

ASERDEEN: Scottish Ballet's Christ-mas season tour touches down with Peter Daniet's Cinderella. Yuria Shinohara dances tonight's lead, with two cast changes to come. His Majesty's Theatre (01224 641122). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. (5)

641122). Opens tongrit, 7-30-in. g/ BIRMINGHAM: Jim Robunson, wrongly imprisoned as one of the Bridgewater Four, is the author of Just, Not Feir, an account of his lie. Jessica Dromgoole directs Malcolm Tierney for Moving Theatre Company. Similagham Rep. (0121-236 6771). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. COVENTRY: The popular soprand

the OAE at the QEH

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London ■ House full, returns only 🖸 Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

■ ALEGRIA: The breathlakingly exotic Cirque du Solei leturns to London with hurther prodigious teats of controtrons fre-dating and clowming. Albert Hall (0171-589 8212).

☐ ACE OF CLUBS: Noël Coward's musical Involvy rongs include Sail Away and Something About a Sailor's dating from 1949 and set in a seedy Soho night club: Wimbledon Studio (0181-540) 0382).

CI A SPECIAL OFFER: Set in a dis-play room, inspired by the book of Sharps Bedrooms and the stones of Raymond Carver, Afice Power and Africe Puncali magne the inner file of a model couple Part of the London Mims Fostival Young Vio Studio (0171-828 6363) II KRAPP'S LAST TAPE, Edward

See review, page 32 Arts Theetre (0171-836 3334)

☐ THE MEMORY OF WATER: Alson Steadman, Samantha Bind and Julia Savatha star in Shelagh Stephenson's acclaimed drama of family memonas. Vaudeville (0171-836 9987)

PERFECT DAYS: Sobhan Red-mond a award-wruning performance as the thirtysomething calebrily half-desser longing for a boby John Tiffany directs. Liz Lochhead's prognant comedy. See review, page 32, Harmostead (0177-722 9301). PETER PAN: Justin Salinger in the title role, with David Troughton as Captain Hook, in the return of Floria Land's enjoyable production, Osivier (0171-452 3000),

COURT IN THE ACT; 19th-century

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

LITTLE VOICE (15); Mark Herman's wonderful version of Jun Cartwright's stage hit, Jame Hornocks sings glorious covers of lorch song divizes, Michael Cane, Ewan McGregor, Brenda Biethyn and Jim Broadbent sleabe around in the foreground.

THE SIEGE (15). Denzel Washington, Annette Berung, and Brune Wiffs trip over each others' bootlaces as they by to defuse an Arab terrorist offensive in Manharian. Chillingly real, beautifully acted. Director Edward Zwick tingers a real raw herve.

PSYCHO (15): Hopeless remake of Hirchcock's original. Gus Van Sam re-shoots this classic lear movie in colour, misses the tronies and

With Vince Vaughn and Anne Heche. z (Pi) (15): Low-budget sci-fi adverthe madness of a genius mathema

ANGEL DUST (ICA): Cool, classy Japanese melocirama about a psychic detective who has to nail her former lover and prenter for lattings on the Tokyo tube. Sogo tank directs a compelling psychodrama that utumately has too meny livists.

TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT (PG): A reasouringly scratchy reprint of Howard Hawks's 1944 classic in which Lauren Bacall shoots fiah in a

CURRENT

comic tales of drugs, drink and halfucination by living Welsh Director, Paul McGugan

SITCOM (18) A French bourneois

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION (PG) Patrick Stewart's Enterprise draw come to the rescue of a peaceable race who have found the clear of youth



Dance, Japanese-style: the Sankai Juku company, the world's most popular butch troupe, in Shijima, the work it brings to London next week

Mad for designer chic

ex scandals are nothing new in the dance world. From the allegedly onanistic excesses of Nijinsky's first performance of L'Après-midi d'un faune to Michael Clark and Stephen Petronio's bed show at the Anthony d'Offay Gallery, a spot of rumpy-pumpy surfaces every so often to lend the dance community a touch of newsworthy notoriety. Yet surely no dance event has been launched in quite such a sensationally

scandalous manner as Japanese butoh. In 1959 the first recorded performance of this extraordinary dance form included a scene in which a young man simulated sex with a chicken by stran-gling it between his thighs. In the furore that followed, I doubt if anyone seriously bothered to ask how it was for the chicken, but for performers Tatsumi Hijikata and Yoshito Ohno the uproar heralded the suitably messy birth of an art form designed to present uncomfortable truths about Japanese society in a postwar, nuclear age. The school of dance subsequently developed by Hi-jikata. Ohno and their disciples became known as "ankoku butoh" (dark soul dance) and was characterised by white-painted, near-naked bodies, painfully slow movements, grimacing expressions and contorted postures.

All of these elements retain their potent presence within this still-evolving dance form - now usually referred to simply as butch - but with a group like Sankai Juku, which visits Sadler's Wells next week, the explicit choreographic extremes of the early pioneers have given way to exquisite theatrical imagery and a design aesthetic that makes most Robert Wilson productions look untidy by comparison. There are no rapes or sacrificial fowls in Sankai Juku's shows - though there are plenty of eggs; more of them later

DANCE: Butoh has come a long way since its birth in 1950s Japan, as Christopher Bowen discovered when he met up with Sankai Juku

⁶The

anger of

butoh is

no longer

Japanese

anger?

on butch is without shock value. The company caused a sensation at the 1982 Edinburgh International Festival when, in a sort of slow-motion bu-.

- but that is not to say the group's take

toh bungee jump, the five-man group lowered themselves upsidedown from the roof of Lothi-an Regional Council head-quarters. In Homage to Pre-history, the unfurling of these fragile bodies suggested the passage between birth and death, an allusion which was made real three years later when, during a performance in Seattle, a rope broke and one of the

troupe fell to his death. There is less scope for fatal risk-taking in Sankai Juku's works these days, but the images of decay, desperation and eroticism that

constitute an inherent part of this dance form can still disturb and fascinate. At the climax of Shijima, the work the company brings to London, four dancers rise in suspended crucifixion as their leader, choreographer and star performer, Ushio Amagatsu, writhes in silent agony below.

These haunting images indicate that butch, born out of student protest and a backlash against American materialism in the Fifties, still has an angry edge. But, as Amagatsu explains, it is a different anger. "The experience of this generation of artists is not the same as the first," he says. "Butoh was created

by people who had experienced a change of values after the war. As for me, I don't know the war. Yes, there is anger in the work, but it is the anger which all human beings have. It is not

> According to Amagatsu. the most important aspect in the development of Sankai Juku (which trans-lates as Academy of the Mountain and Sea) was getting out of Japan. "In Europe I experienced many different cultures, and I realised that differences are very important in understanding the essence of our own culture, and ourselves." Yet the very strangeness of butch, the way in which these slight lean dancers

transform themselves into tremulous creatures with stooped bodies and totally impassive or grotesquely exaggérated expressions, can make the art form seem alien to Western audiences. The movements seem so internalised and personal to the individual dancers; how are we to

"Individuality is very important," explains Amagatsu. "But the aim is always to show the universality. That is the theme of all my works - life and death, it is the same everywhere. In one. sense Sankai Juku is a Japanese company, but our work is common to every one. For example, the white face and body and shaved head are always compared to the Japanese traditions of the past. But for me these forms are universal; white faces and bodies are represented in African and South American art. They are all over the world."

There are those, however, who feet that Amagatsu's quest for universality has led him too far from butch's roots. Some observers regard Sankai Juku's absorption of Western theatricality with great suspicion. The dance critic and historian Kazuko Kuniyoshi has written of the "mediocrity" in Amagat su's work. And when the troupe per-formed its hugely successful The Egg Stands Out of Curiosity in Glasgow in 1990 the festival's deputy director, Neil Wallace, was heard to complain that Sankai Juku wasn't "real butch". He

et exquisitely crafted works such as Shijima, with its mas-sive bas-relief setting of stacked body-forms and designer chic costumes accessorised with stylish egg earrings, give Sankai Juku an undenlable gloss. This design aes-thetic is: suggests Amagaisu, as much a part of his nature as nature itself. "I grew up near the city and the sea where the air was transparent - that influenced me greatly. An appreciation of design is in my character."

So, too, is a clear appreciation of other dance forms. Amagatsu studied Gra-ham technique in Tokyo as a young mesmerising solos when he appears to be channelling the divine Martha in her long woollens period. As Amagatsu once wrote: "When I think of dance, the image of a prehistoric painting comes to mind." Martha, one feels, would approve.

 Sankai Juku is at Sadler's Wells (0171-863 3000) Jan 18-22

Elvis attains Nirvana

IS IT a brilliant piece of Poster Modern irony or gross bad taste? The King is an Elvis Presley clone with a difference instead of recycling Love Me-Tender, he impersonates Elvis impersonating other dead singers. Hence we get Marc Bolan Kurt Cobain and even Jimi Hendrix in the unmistakable Presley style.

The architect of this bizarre

conceit is Jim Brown a 31-year-old father of five from Belfast who has taken a twoyear sabbatical from his job as a postman to have a crack at becoming the world's most fa-



mous ersatz Elvis. So far it seems to be working. Brown has been signed by EMI, John Peel has enthusiastically championed his album Gravelands and an appearance on Chris Evans's TFI Friday ensured that this London date sold out so quickly that a second had to be added the following night.

The logic, if there is any, is that Elvis never wrote his own. material, so why not cover a few that he never got around to recording? As a piece of nos-talgic wish-fulfilment it had its attractions. The King hit the stage with a tough-sounding, rock band and gave us the Presley we would all prefer to remember—raunchy leather-clad Elvis rather than the bloated Las Vegas Elvis. Surprisingly the audience

was young and studentish. many of them not even born when Presley died in 1977. Brown himself was only ten at the time, but has learnt to play his part stylishly. The more unlikely the cover, the better ne carried off the joke. A version of No Woman No Cry that blandly segued into Can't Help Falling in Love was pointless for it was all too possible to imagine the real Preside yof later years stripping Bold-Marley's classic of its dignity. But Presley would surely never have sung Joy Division's Love Will Tear Us Apart, Thin Lizzy's Whiskey in the Jar or Hendrix's Voodoo Chile, which made Brown's render-

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The King is a lot more fun than a night down the pub with a karaoke machine. What his success says about the state of modern music is another matter.

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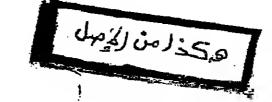
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FROM £56,300 The property department of this innovative are exciting (by firm is weeking to recruid three property assistants with 1-4 years solid cummercial caperience. Boasting a high quality client base, the surveysful cambilates can expect a broad based and introsting taseboal. The firm's excellent training and competitive salary and benefits package make this a meaning upportunity for jurious lawyers seeking to move up the career tables. (Ked. 1978a)

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For lurther information on private practice vacanties please contact Womane Souyth or Debbie Cochrame on 0171 523 3858 101925 467964 evenings/weekends), Lax 0171 523 5459. E-mail groups-cours/subjects/

Substantial national firm is seeking 3-5 year qualified if lawyer to join its specialist team which operates from Leels and Marchester. The successful multidate could be based out of either city and should have high quality experience in contentions and non-confinitions IT and strong lustness development stolls. Partnership prosperts are excellent. (Ref. 25445) CONSTRUCTION LITTIGATION the of Leek' great recent socrass stones, this firm continues to compete with its much larger competiturs. An opportunity exists for a litigator with at least 4 years' pie and experience of or at least, an interest in specialising or construction highlightion. Highly competitive salary and benefits package. IRcl. 25468)

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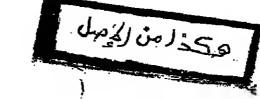
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is the law lords prepare to return to the Pinochet case, two QCs examine the issues raised by Lord Hoffmann's actions



Lord Hoffmann and Justice "Bias - partiality - must connote something more than preconceptions, or prejudices," writes Sir Louis Blom-Cooper

Bias, prejudice and the Pinochet case

talk in the Temple and divided the talkers so deeply as the rights and wrongs of the Pinochet affair. But the central issue of whether heads of state are immune for acts of state considered by the international community to be heinous crimes is not up for debate here.

That will be for the House of Lords appellate committee at the rehearing of the case next Monday. The hearing follows the setting-aside of the Supreme Court once stood their favour and may have riginal ruling by three to two down in a case involving the been confident of keeping their lenying General Pinochet any validity of the musical output winnings. mmunity.

rocedure for disclosure by dges of potential conflicts of terest and the law's ap-loach to what is — often glib-— described as bias on the prt of decision-makers. Nor-nlly in litigation, a party to a dpute may perceive a disadvatage to itself in the judge (o judges) assigned to the ca. This occurs mostly at the tri stage; rarely does it arise or appeal because appeal cort judges are not the primaryact-finders. The party per-ceibly prejudiced will apply fo the trial judge to stand den and be replaced if the

car of bias is made good. ften an appointed judge wiinitiate disclosure of a possile conflict of interest and set the parties' reactions. Oftethe interest is not such as torouse perturbation; the partic readily acknowledge that it ill not affect the judge's judial approach to the case and doot seek his or her removal.



The judiciary's approach to bias by decision-makers poses disturbing questions, says Sir **Louis Blom-Cooper**

over the address systems of

find the imposed music that he felt. he could not remain unaffected in the courtroom by taste for the transport company's activities. Had Lord

Hoffmann per-ceived himself to

be similarly placed, he would have disqualified himself or, having disclosed his association with Amnes-

The objectors, if any, would have been the Pinochet sup. porters. If they knew of Lord Hoffmann's connection at the time of Amnesty's intervention, they might still have thought it wise to forgo any ob-

judge will remove himself. Mr . Cornhill, the Lord Chief Jus-Justice Frankfurter of the U5 tice, and his two colleagues in

But what about the party In the meantime, there are isturbing features about the public buses in Washing—that might conceivably gain some advantage from having a friend on the

bench? When Amnesty International applied to intervene in the proceedobjectors ings before the law lords, presumably it was then (or soon after) aware that Hoffmann have been was to sit. Whatever advantage it might thereby gain, were not its Pinochet SUpporters lawyers obliged to disclose their cli-

Hoffmann? I think ty International, asked if the so; and I speak as a founder parties objected to his sitting member of Amnesty in 1961.

Maybe the law lords think so. too. Certainly such disclosure would have avoided the bias issue clouding the proceedings. It may be that Amnesty and its lawyers thought there was no issue of bias. After all, it might be assumed - (rightly, one that seek his or her removal. jection. After all, they had the hopes) that all our most senior iccasionally, though, the judgment of Lord Bingham of judges would privately sub-

ent's link with Lord

tions and applying the law as they understand it, "without scribe to the aims of Amnesty

Lord Hoffmann was only transparently overt By that criteria. Lord Hoffmann, by his formal link with about his support than his brother judges. Therein lies the rub. Are we not all confus-Amnesty International, had displayed publicly his preconceptions in the area of human rights and civil liberties, but ing preconceptions with bias. only the latter evoking any sense of judicial impropriety? We are all born with predisnot in the context of the instant

position. The process of education and socialisation creates attitudes that affect each one of us in judging situations, attitudes that precede reasoning in particular instances and which, by definition, are prejudices. Without acquired preconceptions, life could not go on. Were these prejudgments, or habits, absent and the individual obliged to treat every event as a precedent presenting wholly novel problems, he

or she would go mad. Bias — in other words, parhality - must connote something more than preconceptions (or prejudices). To be biased is deliberately to take on an attitude that is in a different dimension to the essential characteristic of the sensate human being. But preconceptions may be perceived, rightly or wrongly by the reasonable onlooker, as indicating bias.

Originally, of course, disclosure by judges in private litigation was confined to their pecuniary interests. It is easier to identify a relative financial interest than it is to discern a pertinent political or social

A civilised society should assume that its senior judges will all have the aptitude and attitude, when sitting in judgment on fellow human beings. of recognising their preconcep-

Should a judge have outside interests?

Pannick QC

Lord Chancellor, commented that it was "in the highest degree unfortunate" that the law lords had to reopen the 3-2 decision that General Pinochet was not entitled to immunity from extradition to 5pain. There was the appearance of bias by Lord Hoffmann, one of the law lords in the majority, who had failed to declare bis links with Ampesty International, a party to the appeal. The Lord Chancellor suggested that there was no point in "crying over spilt milk" but that it was necessary to out procedures in place to ensure that this does not happen again".

The law lords should recognise the need for such procedores. After all, as Lord Hoffmann

himself observed in another judement in December, there are a oumber of "cases in which one feels that a slight change in the composition of the Appellate Committee would have set the law on a different course". The new procedures should be based on four main principles.

The first is that judges should not be required to avoid outside interests. It is highly desirable that our judges play a part in communal activities, displaying (and encouraging other lawyers to display) a sense of civic regood causes. As the great American judge Benjamin Cardozo emphasised: "The great tides and currents which engulf the rest of men do not turn aside in their course

and pass the judges by."

Today's law lords should not be required to follow the example of ooe of their predecessors as reported by Shimon 5hetreet in Judges on Trial (1976) - who was so concerned about avoiding any hint of partiality that "since his appointment as a High Court judge he had never cast a vote in a general election. The quality of the bench, and of public life in general, would be severely diminished were it to become a conditioo of appointment that judges should agree to monastic exclusion from commitment to any cootroversial cause.

The second principle is that the personal interests of the judge should be declared. To enable the parties to decide whether to object to a particular judge hearing the case, to reduce the risk of allegations of bias and to encourage judges to recognise the need to keep an open mind, transparency is necessary in relation to any factor which links the judge to any party or witness or issue in the case.

The third principle is that the general interests and attitudes of the judge do not make it in-appropriate for that judge to hear the case unless he or she is incapable of deciding the case ions do not disqualify a judge who is able and willing to consider the case with an open mind. An extreme example of this principle in ac-tion was the conviction of Adolf Eichmann by the Israeli District Court of war crimes and crimes against the Jewish people. The Su-preme Court rejected his argument on appeal in 1962 that the reactions of any Jewish judge capable of giving the appellant an objective trial". The Supreme Court agreed with the Dis-trict Court that "once this case has been

brought before us, it becomes our duty to con-

trol even these emotions when we sit in judg-

ment". That is what being a judge demands. The fourth principle is that, however confident the judge may be of an ability to decide the case fairly and objectively, a specific judicial link with the parties may be so close that the appearance of bias makes the involvement of that judge inappropriate in the particular case.

A decision of Lord Chancellor Cottenham was quashed by the House of Lords in 1852 because he was a shareholder in a company that was a party to the action. In Texas in 1925, the entire membership of the state Supreme Court excused itself from bearing a case involving an organisation known as Woodmen of the World. All the judges were members, and so the Governor appointed a special court of three women too

doubt in the confident expectation that such an organisation would out admit women into membership). In 1994 the Supreme Court of Arkansas held that a judge should not have au-thorised the release of her boyfriend from cus-

As Lord Irvine of Lairg pointed out, the un-fortunate experience of the Pinochet case makes it necessary to improve judicial procedures. But the concept of bias raises complex questions about the nature of adjudication. We must be careful ool to neuter our judges by deterring them from involvement io communal activities. We should recognise that links with the parties raise greater concerns about the appearance of bias than prior expressions of judicial opinion. And we should accept that impartiality means an open mind, not a mind which has given no prior thought to the issues. As the American judge Jerome Frank said, if we de-fine "bias" to mean "the total absence of preconceptions in the mind of the judge, then no one has ever had a fair trial and no one ever will".

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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A early day motion by th solicitor-MP Andrew Dmore calling for the supping of QCs is provin popular among La-ber backbenchers. So fa the motion, which arges that oo Bill to moderise justice would be

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copiete unless it put an end to the "expesive and anachronistic silk system. bil just before Christmas.

NEW YEAR, new image. Sir Richard Sit, head of the High Court Chancery dision, calls in the Inner Temple year bak for an end to wigs which - he says nave "become positively damaging to it image of the civil justice system." And Galdine Clark, a barrister changing



notice more like an invitashowing herself swinging along, trouser suit blowing in the wind.

☐ GEOFF HOON must be suffering from a sense of deja vu. For the second time in six months, the deputy h received 82 signatures since it was ta- to the Lord Chancellor has been poised for promotion to Paymaster General. only to have the chance snatched away at the last minute. When Hoon was last tipped to replace Geoffrey Robinson at the Treasury, Gordon Brown persuaded Blair to keep Robinson. This time Robinson's resignation put the promotion back on the agenda. But the post went to Dawn Primarolo amid reports that Lord

chambers to 4/5 Grays
Inn Square, has put out a steer through his legal aid reforms.

☐ CONDITIONAL FEE work is taking off. New Court Chambers will hold a seminar at Middle Temple Hall on Thursday from 6.30pm on all aspects - insurance. risk assessment and case studies (details: 0171-583 5123) - and oo February 1 a "roadshow" takes place at the Law Socie-ty sponsored by Medical Litigation on the growing role of insurers in medical "no win, no fee" claims (details: Geoffrey Hall 01494-792 621).

☐ CHAMBERS, the Radio 4 legal comedy by Inns of Court School of law lecturer Clive Coleman, is recording a new series at Broadcasting House oo February 21. Tickets from 0171-765 4137 or e-mail radio. ticket.unit@bbc.co.uk

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Litigation: will it be a free-for-all?

Compensation culture rules in America but not here — at least not yet, says Gary Slapper

rends, films and happens in America inevitably reachour shores, even in the leal system. Yet aithough ress reports show a rise in igh-profile compensation aims, we have not yet fallen rey to the tricky and dangerus kind of liogation that has ngulfed America, where ven teachers applying suncreen to their pupils have een sued by parents.

The evidence suggests that ve are holding fast against his style of lingation; we ve been bringing few-

legal actions each ear, Cases such as those of Luke Ratcliff and Heny White, though from uite different walks of ife, have both featured recently in what some observers have seen as a developing pattern of judicial decisions to steer us away from becoming a compensation-obsessed culture by blocking paths to the

In 1994, Luke Ratcliff was 19-year-old student at Harper Adams Agricultural College in Newport, Shropshire. One night he went out drinking with friends and, after about four pints, climbed over a college wall and dived into a swimming pool at 2.30am, hitting his head on the bottom. Serious head injuries left him in a wheel-

Earlier this month the Court of Appeal ruled that he was to blame for his injuries and could not expect compensation from the college for

Ĺ,

Stewart-Smith said that Mr Ratcliff was aware of the risk and willingly accepted it.

In the same week as the Court of Appeal's decision. the House of Lords gave its judgment in the case of police officers who were suing over the Hillsborough football stadium disaster in 1989 in which 96 people were killed and another 700 in-

The Lords ruled that Henry White, and other police officers who suffered psychiatric injury as a result of being in the aftermath, were not en-

'What is one man's frivolous litigation is another's test case'

> titled to recover damages against the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police. who had admitted negligence by his force. The police officers argued. however, that as victims of

an admined tort, they were owed compensation. Rejecong their arguments. Lord Steyn noted: "We do not live in a Utopia; we live in a practical world where the tort system imposes limits to the classes of claims that rank for consideration." This recalls the dictum of Chief Justice Cardozo, a re-

nowned American judge who, in 1931, made the definitive statement in warning against any new law that would "open the floodgates" not having taken greater and inundate courts with steps to prevent him falling claims. He said that law into the pool. Lord Justice should not be framed to burden possible defendants with "liability in an indeterminate amount for an indeterminate time to an indeterminate

Anyone who applauded decisions such as those in the swimming pool or Hillsborough cases on the basis that they will deter a growing body of writ-happy citizens has no reason to be concerned. The Judicial Statistics, published by the Lord Chancellor's Department (LCD), reports that 153,624 writs and originating sum-monses were issued in 1995

in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court - where all the main alleged wrongs against people and property are heard - a fall of 2 per cent since 1994. The LCD records a further fall: 121,446 actions were begun in the QBD in 1997, 15 per cent down on 1996.

This pattern is reflected in county court summonses. The Judicial Statistics for 1995 notes a decrease in the work of the county courts since 1992. The 1995 figure of 2,445,248 plaints entered continued a downward trend and was 8 per cent less than in 1994. The 1997 report notes the "steady decrease in the work of the county courts in recent years", and a further 5 per cent drop in actions to 2,208,878,

Nick Armstrong, a solicitor with Irwin Mitchell, has noted that, despite the fall in recorded actions, the insurance industry states that the number of claims made is ris-

The Medical Defence Union reports a recent rise of 30



per cent in annual payouts. but, as Dr Armstrong observes, that might reflect merely a rise in the quantum of damages per claim, rather than a rise in the number of

Dr Armstrong argues that it is in the public interest for challenging and novel ac-

tions to be brought. "What one" and that it wishes to is one man's frivolous litigabring about "a significant intion is another's test case," he crease in access to justice". If argues, "and what is one this aim is achieved, it will man's litigation explosion is surely follow that society becomes more litigious. another's access to justice." Modernising Justice, the

Government's recent White Paper, says that "the legal Dr Slapper is director of the Open University's Law system should be for every-

A firm bond of partners

Like a modern marriage, a merger is hard to forge, says Edward Fennell

"It was love at first sight

when they saw each

oyal marriages and law firm mergers have much in common. They don't always work out and pre-engagement negotiations can drag on. Nonetheless, the word from well-informed sources last week was that the former big-name firms Theodore Goddard and Richards Butler, perhaps inspired by the example of Prince Ed-ward and Sophie Rhys-Jones, will be announcing their engage-ment by the end of the month.

Peter Kavanagh, the managing director of Thetried to play down the mounting excitement, saying: "It is essential that a merger of this kind has a high level of support, so we are taking a lot of time to explain to partners what it

means to them as individuals as well as what it signifies for the business as a whole. At this stage I cannot give a date for any formal announcement."

Mr Kavanagh is prudent to be circumspect in his comments. These talks started out as a three-way merger with Denton Hall as the third player. Back in October, Denton Hall decided to pull out due to difficulties in meshing together the various offices in Hong Kong. All three firms used to be high

in the league table of size. They have dropped down the ladder but merger negotiations have to traverse dangerous territory. James Dallas, the chairman of Denton Hall, says: "Because of the growth of international offices, merger discussions are much more complex than a decade ago. Rather than just a couple of London offices, you may be try-ing to match half a dozen offices worldwide and that could be very complicated.

Such proved to be the case dur-

ing last year's proposed link-up between Wilde Sapte and Arthur Andersen. There were early signs that Wilde Sapte's Paris partners were not happy with the deal.

By the time negotiations were broken off, several key Wilde Sapte partners had left and Arthur Andersen had received a severe blow to its strategic plans. Andersen admits that it has

given up any thought of a largescale merger with a law firm in London, despite the fact that it had declared this to be its strategic

route forward. One merger we can expect to see consummated later this year, however, is between Beachcroft Stanleys Wansbroughs Wil-

ley Hargrave. This extended engagement process has benefited from the political of Lord of Tanskills of Hunt worth, the former Cabinet minister

under Margaret other's turnovers" Thatcher, who has been able to bring his formidable charm and powers of negoti-

ation to the deal. As a merger between a medi-um-sized London practice and a medium-sized regional firm, it has not had to wrestle with com-

s Lord Hunt says: "A client survey revealed to us overwhelmingly that we had to go national. So we wanted to find a firm that mirrored our strength but was outside London. We were delighted when we met Wansboroughs."

plex multi-office managers.

Above all, though, the partners of the firms have developed into good friends during their courtship.And that, as Prince Edward points out, is pretty important for a success-

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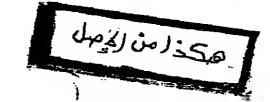
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Central London -

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 Outgoing and flexible personality who will enjoy the diversity of this environment. Reinsurance and/or US experience would be

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call Guy Moran or Catherine Brown on 0171 269 2231. or write to them enclosing your current CV and salary details at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5LN or fax 0171 405 2936. e-mail: guymoran@michaelpage.com

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ABN AMRO is a major global bank with a strong international focus. With akmost 65,000 employees and a global processes in 71 countries, the bank's main competitive advantage lies in belonging to an extensive workwide network, which enables it to offer a wide range of products and services in the fields of both commercial and investment banking. With total assets of US\$414 hillon, ABN AMRO ranks as the 4th largest bank in Europe and the 8th largest bank in the world. The London business of the bank continues to grow and prestigious new premises are to be occupied during 1993.

London The London Legal Department provides general legal and

£ Investment Banking Package

secretariat services to the Asset Management Group, and now requires a lawyer to be dedicated to this business. The Asset Management Group is 80 strong and works in three main areas, management and marketing of Retali funds and management of Fixed Income Institutional and Private Client mandates. The successful candidate will work across all of these areas, carrying out a wide range of work including reviewing and negotiating investment management contracts, custody agreements and counterparty documentation such as ISDA's, ISMA's and terms of business. Day-to-day Ilaison with the compliance function will be required and there will be involvement in new product development. Knowledge of LIK and offshore collective investment schemes is essential, whitst some knowledge of pension law would be useful. Your profile:

◆ 2-4 years relevant post qualification experience. Currently working in an in-house asset management team or within a specialist department of a premier law film.

- · Adaptable and flexible with the tact, diplomacy and strength of character to deal with senior management and business people at all levels.
 - · Confident and with sufficient commercial acumen to work calmly under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

This is an outstanding opportunity to work closely with the business in one of Europe's largest investment banking organisations. The remuneration package will reflect ABN AMRO's policy of rewarding excellence. If you would like to find out more about this opportunity please contact Catherine Brown, the exclusively retained consultant on 0171 269 2484 or send your CV to her at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 405 2936. Please quote ref 465687. e-mail: catherinebrown@michaelpage.com

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COMPANY SECRETARY

North West

Stanley Leisure pla

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THE POSITION

- Reporting to the Board of Directors, this role will be responsible for the full range of company secretarial duties associated with a plc environment.
- Provide assistance and guidance to the Directors in their pursuit of their business objectives and play a central role in the governance of the company.
- Develop the company secretariat as a core support function adding value to the business.
- QUALIFICATIONS
- Proven track record of operating as a company secretary, either as a qualified accountant, chartered secretary or with a legal qualification.
- Highly professional individual able to operate in a plc environment, demonstrating a proactive and efficient approach.
- Strong technical knowledge with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

This is an outstanding opportunity for an individual to develop their career and be part of a growing organisation.

Interested candidates should write enclosing full career details, current salary and where possible a daytime telephone number, quoting reference 2558 to Robert Berkeley, Consumer Division, Questor International, 3 Burlington Gardens, London W1X 1LE. Tel 0171 292 8300. Fax 0171 287 5457, e-mail: claire@questorint.com



Ashursts - Pensions

Maria Stimpson has joined Ashursts' Employment and Benefits Group as partner leading the Pensions Practice and is recruiting additional solicitors, at all levels, to the pensions team.

For ambitious lawyers who would like to be involved in developing a pensions practice, this promises to be an exciting opportunity.

It will be a challenge, fun and rewarding. The success of the team will be your success.

If you would like to join a firm with a culture for developing individuals within a team atmosphere, open communication and supervision, and above all a desire that everyone should enjoy what they do, you should apply to us.



Please write enclosing your CV to Stuart Walker at Ashurst Morris Crisp, Broadwalk House, 5 Appoid Street, London, EC2A 2HA.

Alternatively if you would like to discuss the opportunities within the Pensions Group please call Maria on 0171 972 7114.

Harney Westwood & Riegels

s the largest law firm in the ABVI. Harney Westwood & Riegels plays a major role in the commercial and financial life of

this thriving offshore jurisdiction. The firm acts for blue chip global banks, top City and international law firms and European and Far Eastern investment funds.

It is undergoing a period of steady expansion and has recruited several solicitors from leading City firms over the past few years. These lawyers have settled in well.

The excellent quality of life in the BVI is widely known. Those who have made the move have subsequently remarked upon the predominantly international nature . and broad range of work on offer.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

The firm has now identified the need for two further solicitors:

Corporate and Finance

Suitable candidates will have between two and four years' pge. The work includes advising on and documenting a range of international finance and corporate transactions including share purchases, share issues, secured lending, acquisition financing and project financing, joint ventures and stock exchange listings.

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A two-to-four year qualified funds solicitor is sought for the full range of regulatory and transactional matters involving investment funds and commercial trusts. Candidates with venture capital experience are also encouraged to apply.

Salaries are in line with those of the major City law firms. For the right people, partnership prospects are excellent. For further details, please ring David Woolfson, or send him your Cr.

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c. £90,000

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The Position

- Reporting to the General Counsel you will deliver a highly efficient operational and administrative support function.
- Execute and develop planned and innovative projects linked to the successful initiatives now in place.
- Plan and project manage strategic initiatives for external law firm management and best practice guidance.
- Support the administration of the legal and company secretarial teams in relation to budgets, human resource.

The Requirements

- A lawyer, management consultant or operations director who routinely operates within a legal environment.
- Experience in change management projects, IT systems and the design and implementation of policy and strategy.
- Strong knowledge of the legal marketplace and UK and
- A leader with strong management and communication skills who is solutions orientated with the vision and presence to work effectively at senior executive and board level.

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conduct of its litigation or prosecution work, or

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Please send your CV with current salary details to: Daniel Richards, K/F Selection, 252 Regent Street, London W1R 6HL, quoting ref: 06528101.

Alternatively send by fax on 0171-312 3380 or by e-mail to kis-london@kornferty. Internet Home Page: http://www.kis

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- Standard Chartered is an international beniding group employing some 24,000 people in more than America.
- Standard Chartered Group Legal Department is seeking two commercial IT lawyers to join its small head office team.
- Day-to-day work would encompass hardware and software procurement, development and licensing issues together with outsourcing and vendor management in an international context. across the Group's various businesses.
- The successful candidates (one with probably 5+ years' poe and the other with 3 years') will have gained experience in an IT law unit in private practice or the in-house legal department of a technology vendor and will have:
- excellent non-contentious IT experience (though some contentious exposure would be useful) - a thorough grounding in IP issues
- proven ability in maintaining commercial relationships at all levels - effective project management skills.
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rmation please contact Stuart Morton or Deborah Kirkman at Chambers Banking & Financi 23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL Telephone 0171 606 8844 Fax 0171 600 1753. All direct or third party applications will be forwarded to Chambers Banking & Finance.

Standard & Chartered





STRATEGIC TRANSFER OF THE ESTATE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR (STEPS): APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL ADVISER

Inland Revenue and HM Customs and Excise intend to invite tenders for the role of Legal Adviser to assist and advise them on establishing a long term contract with the private sector involving the transfer of ownership of their property assets and the provision of serviced accommodation to meet their operational needs. The two estates comprise in total 1.6 million square metres and extend to some 750 properties across the Visual Visual Visual Research the United Kingdom

The role is expected to last for about two and a half years. Contractors will be expected

- significant experience of very large scale property portfolio transactions; expertise in international capital markets financing techniques and in particular, securitisation and of asset backed finance;
- · experience of PFI/PPP,
- experience and understanding of EU procurement regulations; and
- the breadth and depth of resource with the relevant expertise and experience to meet the demands of a transaction of this size and complexity.

Stitably experienced contractors wishing to express an interest in tendering for this work are asked to complete a questionnaire, which can be obtained from:

Simon Barnicott Inland Revenue Estate Management Unit PO Box 20, Castle Meadow Road **NOTTINGHAM NG2 1BA** Telephone: 0115 974 0770 Facsimile: 0115 974 0790

Contractors may be requested to clarify information provided or to submit supplementary documents before senders are invited. The closing date for receipt of expressions of interest and completed questionnaires will be noon on 11th February 1999. Invitations to tender will be issued in early March.

English speaking lawyer, fluent in French, wanted for nternatinal practice with leading law firm in Paris.

France. Please send CV to: Mr. Armeniades, 13 avenue Hoche, 75008 Paris. Fax: (33) 1 53 96 03 83

law@lalparis.com



CLERK TO THE GENERAL COMMISSIONERS Division of Salford and Manchester North The General Commissioners for the above Division inter-

ne general Commissioners for the above Datason interest to appoint a Clerk to take up detice in 1989 to succeed held present Clerk who is due to raths. The appointment is open to Barristers or Solicitors. The structure of Tax Appeals as well as remuneration is presently under review, Anyone interested in this appointment should rathe to: life D G Nowell, SS Manchester Boad, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2,17.

TENANCY VACANCIES

An expanding young London common law set has vacancies for established practitioners in the field of Housing, Personal Injury, Family, Crime and

Enquiries, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be made to Box No: 4618

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GOVERNMENT LEGAL SERVICE

All GLS posts are open to both solicitors. and barristers. . The GLS now wishes to fill a number of vacancies in the Departments and Agencies listed below. Most of these are in London, although the Land Registry has vacancies in various locations across the UK, the Office of Water Services has a vacancy in Birmingham and the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has two posts

on a fixed-term contract in Glasgow. Department of the Environment & the Regions

- Home Office
- HM Land Registry
- Inland Revenue
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Treasury Solicitor's Department Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
- Department of Social Security/Department
- Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
- Low Commission
- Office of Water Services

Additional vacancies may arise in these and other Departments.

The basic salary at Legal Officer level ranges from not less than £22,134 to £35,203 in London and at Grade 7 from £28,151 to £47,172 in London. In addition, there may be a few places for highly qualified and experienced candidates at Grade 6 level with salary in the range £32,100 to £52,200 in London Level of appointment to the GLS and starting salary will depend on the candidate's qualifications and experience. Where appropriate, candidates may be offered a starting salary above the minimum. For further information and an application

pack contact The GLS Recruitment Team, Queen Anne's

Closing date for submission of applications is 9am on Wednesday 27 January 1999.

The GLS is an equal opportunities employer.

BY E. L.

kan i z -

NEWCASTLI

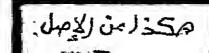
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**RACING:** JOCKEY CLUB RAISES STAKES IN HIGH-PROFILE CASES OF MISUSE

# Whip bans to carry more sting

By RICHARD EVANS RACING CORRESPONDENT

1 & Riegel

JOCKEYS who breach the whip rules in major races will be referred automatically to Portman Square and face a minimum ten-day ban as part of a new crackdown on whip abuse announced by the Jockey Club yesterday. The move is effective from March I...

If the deterrent fails to work, riders could lose their winning percentage of prize-money worth up to £20,000 in a classic such as the Vodafone

The radical package of measures — which includes compulsory seminars for riders. races where the whip cannot be used and the introduction of "equine friendly" whips — follows a number of high-profile races last summer in which top riders flagrantly ignored the rules in pursuit of ig-race glory. Olivier Pesiier was suspen-

ded after hitting High-Rise too many times when winning the Derby, but the worst case came in the group one Interna-tional Stakes at York in August, when a thrilling three-way photo finish ended with Pat Eddery, Frankie Dettori and Kieren Fallon receiving bans totalling 15 days for mis-

use of the whip. The Jockey Chub action is not only aimed at curbing jockeys on the big occasion, but is the latest signal that the welfare of the horse and racing's public image is now a priority among racing's rulers.

Christopher Spence, senior steward of the Jockey Club,

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

suggests the best value in

the ante-post market

GUIDE TO THE PRICES



The finish of the International Stakes at York which cost Fallon, left, Dettori, centre, and Eddery a total of 15 days in whip bans.

said: "This package of meas-ures clearly demonstrates that important race". we remain committed to setting new standards aimed at used for safety, correction and

encouragement only." The Jockey Club is adamant Champion Hurdle. that racing suffers when sus-pensions are imposed at highjockeys ignore the whip in-

struction when riding in an The major races which will

warrant an automatic referral safeguarding the welfare of to the Jockey Club's disciplithe horse and improving the nary committee if riders quality of riding. The Jockey breach the whip rules include Club has for many years stated that the whip should be es, as well as all grade one raced. es over jumps, such as the Cheltenham Gold Cup and

Flat races with a total prize fund of £140,000 and jump races with £80,000 prize-money pensions are imposed at language profile meetings, invariably es with £80,000 prize-money covered by television, "and it will also be covered, along with a host of other well-money including the known races including the

Real is favourite on the strength of

this race last year, over

AFTER the cavalry charge of last week's Ladbroke Hurdle, the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot on Saturday has a much more attractive shape from a betting point of view, with just 12 good-class chasers

days will be imposed.
"The [disciplinary] committee considered removing a jockey's winning percentage if found in breach in a major race, but they have discounted it for the time being. However, it will be kept in reserve if longer suspensions are not seen to be a sufficient deterrent," the Jockey Club statement added.

Tote International Handicap (Ascot), the Tote Ebor (York).

(Ascot), the Tote Ebor (York), the Murphy's Gold Cup and Tripleprint Gold Cup (both Cheltenham), the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and Tote Gold Trophy (both Newbury), the Greenalls Gold Cup (Haydock), the Martell Grand Na-

tional (Aintree) and the Whit-

bread Gold Cup (Sandown).

If a jockey is found to be in breach of whip rules in those

races by local racecourse stew-

ards, he will be referred to the Jockey Club's disciplinary

committee and if they concur a minimum suspension of ten

Education is seen as the long-term method of dealing with whip abuse and "continuation training" will be intro-duced for 7lb claimers at the British Racing School. The Jockey Club is also planning a series of races for apprentices in which the whip may only be carried and not used. Com-pulsory seminars for all jockeys will start next year. After talks with the Animal Health Trust, the Jockey Club

#### Leicester off as frost bites

وكذار من رائيمل

THE Leicester fixture scheduled for today has been aban-doned because of frost and waterlogging, and Newcas-tle's meeting hinges on a 7.45am inspection.

David McAllister, clerk of the course at Newcastle, said: There are still traces of frost and snow on the track but we have had a good day with plenty of sunshine. However, the temperature is nearly at freezing again. If the forecast gradually becoming warmer is right we might be in with a chance."

Sedgefield will inspect today to determine prospects for tomorrow. Clerk of the course, John Cleverly, said: "Pros-pects are only 50-50."

mark for "equine friendly" whips. Work on the project is already underway and the RSPCA will be among those helping to oversee trials. The disciplinary committee

even considered restricting jockeys to using the whip in the less forceful "backhand" position only, but after taking advice from leading riders and the British Racing School "this was discounted for the time

### ENGLED PARK 1.00 Mystagogue. 1.30 Vegas. 2.00 Facile Tigre. 2.30 Love Diamonds. 3.00 Pacific Alfiance. 3.30

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST 1.00 yarmouth claiming stakes

(£2,558: 1m 5f) (8 runners)

1.30 VENTHOR SELLING STAKES

(3-Y-O: £1,855: 7f) (12) 

2.00 BOOK A MEAL FOR VALENTINES DAY



2.30 SHANKLIN HANDICAP(3-Y-0: \$2,710: 1m) [6]

2-1 Love Diamonds, 4-1 Jack Goodman, Paddock Inspection, 5-1 others. 3.00 racecourse & railway maiden stakes

501 (5) 56-4 MANMAG 5 (8) Max C Releasy 4-9-10 Predericts (7) 45
502 (10) 03- DUDAL MUTERNA 64 V Soure 4-9-10 R Cochrane 49
503 (9) 08-9 SLIPSSMITH 11 S 10m 4-9-16 P 10e (5) 63
504 (6) 07 ALARMANIC MOTIONA 445 M Channon 4-9-5 S Drowne 315 (2) 645- DUEEN'S NAT 14 J Bridger 4-9-5 Reactives (7)
506 (7) 005- BRAWAGOS 08 P S Marches 3-8-4 Francing 507 (11) COS BRAWAGOS 08 P S Marches 3-8-4 Francing 508 (11) 50- PACIFIC ALLANCE 112 R Amstrong 3-9-4 G Grane 56
509 (6) 50- PACIFIC ALLANCE 112 B Soure 3-8-4 R Perham 60
510 (3) 563- WOOLLY WINSOME 32 B Soure 3-8-4 R Perham 60
511 (4) 6- GRAND CURONET 73 T Milts 3-7-13 L Center 48

3.30 NEWPORT APPRENTICE HANDICAP

| Comparison Continues | Conti 5-2 Xlogs Arriw, 4-1 Havischill Henry, 11-2 Genius, 13-2 Dancing-Algue 7-1 Homestead, 8-1 Philister, 16-1 Key To The City, Femous, 12-1 Mazeed

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANKERS: Mrs A Penet, 5 workers from 23 resease, 21 7%, R Armetron 14 hom 73 19.2%, V Sease, 7 from 39, 17.9%, P Eccles, 3 from 1 17.6%, D Chapman, 17 hom 98, 17.3%, M Johnston, 44 from 260, 16.9%

Adrian Maguire had no luck at Fakenham yesterday when, after losing a race on Royal Castle in the stewards' room, he sprained his wrist when falling from King On The Roo and was forced to give up his last two rides, one of which, Supreme Day, was successful.

#### **RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS**

Fontwell Park

Cooking State 1 (10) of helie 1 1. Homeme de Fer Nift R Fornstel, 6-4 (av): 2, Kennya Cets 133-1): 3. Caldemus (20-1) 15 ran 5, 91 K Badey, Tute. 52.10; 21.30, 52.70, 55.20 DF 525.60. CSF: \$68.43. ES2-60. CSF: S86 43.
1.30 (3m 21 110yd ch) 1, Desam Battile (R Durwoody, 2-1), 2, Royal Torruny (20-1), 3, Bright Farme (S-1) Shong Tell-6-4 tax. 8 ran Ds1, 111. W Turner 10te: E330; E110, E450, E120 DF: E22,70 CSF: E31 66 x4.50, x1.20 UP; E22,70 CSP\* S31 65 2.00 (2m 6) 110yd hdie) 1, Sidpearl (J Cullo-ty, 6-4 tay, Tamekseper's top miling); 2, Flamengo (11-2); 3, Below The Sait (50-1), 12 ran, 13, nk, Mass H Knight Toter £2.30, C1.20, £2.00, £10.70 DF, £6.40, CSF £7.83

2.30 (3m 2l 110/d ch) 1. Daneetillyoudrop (T J Murphy, 3-1), 2. Nezzaro (11-4 (av), 6 mr. Dst. P Nicholis, Tote. \$3.90; \$2.70, \$1.40 DF; \$5.70 CSF. \$10 ID. x1 4u LH: 25.70 CSF, £10 10. 3.00 (2m 21 110yd hofle) 1, Nordensk (J. Goldsten, 12-1), 2, Dancing Paddy (18-1), 3, Stehns (2-1 fav) 8 rán. 7, 4 M Madg-mck, Tote, £10 50, £2 10, £4 10, £1 10. DF, £26.90 CSF, £157.88, Tricast, £499.58 EASO CSF: £157.88, Incase £499.58 3.30 (2m 31 ch) 1, Kybo's Revenge (P Hide, 20-1), 2, Chopewa (13-8 law); 3, Smart Guy (100-1) 9 ran. 61, 21 R Rowe, Tote, £17.10, £3.40, £1.10, £14.00, DF, £25.50, £357.849.94

E25.50, CS\*; £49.94 4.00 (2m 21 110yd flat) 1, Anne Kernell (G Supple, 5-1), 2. The Hill Has Moved (7-2 p-lav), 3, Pettemps Condrella (10-1), Two Pad-des (5th) 7-2 p-lav, 18 ran 11, 171, M Pipa. Tota: £7 60, £2.70, £2.00, £3.40, DF: £11.50, CSF; £23.14. Placepot: £52,70, Quadpot: £7.60.

Fakenham

Going: good to soft, good in places 1.10 f2m hdfe) 1, Eastlacher (8 Fenton, 12-1), 2 Memsahlb Diesseem (16-1); 3, Our Westhercock (11-1), Prince of India 4-1 tav 14 ran, 8t, 11 Mrs. J Primer, Tote; C10 40; 2 on 5-2 en 5-2 an DE: 188.50 CSF

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

1.40 (2m 1 l'Oydrich) 1, Country Ster (G Brad-ley, 7-2); 2, Northem Saddler (11-2), 3, The Moor (11-4 lay) 7 ran 4, dist. E James, Toe £4.30; £2.90, £3.20 DF, £12 1D CSF; £19.42. 21.30, 22.90, 53.20 DF, 512.10 CSF; 519.42, 2.10 (2m 4/ hele) 1, Errigad (R. Jonnson, 7-2); 2, Royal Castle 15-1), 3, Dragon Lord 16-4 favy 8 ran Hd, 3/ O Nicholson Tote 55-30, 51-80, 52.00, C1-60 DF 51/180 CSF; 521.66, Royal Castle firsthod first but after a stewards impury was placed second, 2.46 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Danger Flynn (W. Marston, 7-1), 2, Royal Somata: (25-1), 3, Bubbles Golore (65-1), King On The Run 5-6 fav 7 ran, 29, det late P, Sky Tote, 58-40; 52-70, C3-60 DF 521/10 CSF 589-82, 3, 10 (2m 549 ch) 1, Tueckers Town (B Fenton, 9-2); 2, Tales Cover (9-1); 3, Salsong (5-1), Rossel Island (8th) 2-1 fav 9 ran 14, 14, R Rowe, Tota SS 70, 52-80, 52-50, 52-70, DF, 253-10, CSF, £40,34, Tricast 5192.42, 3, 49 (2m 7/ 110yd rode) 1, Supreme Day (J. 3.40 (2m 71 110yd Indie) 1, Supreme Day (J R Kavanogh, 10-11 fay), 2, Lucky Master 5-11; 3, Missad Cat (5-1) 10 ran, NR Rober-to Rwa, 2-4, ded. O Nicholson, Tota: \$130; \$110, \$2.20, \$2.00, \$15, \$20, \$0.50\$

RICHARD EVANS Mage SC PT M ARL LATE

I AN Newcenster

Scottonal Lat pulloged intomount from subminister one
percy pround at My hightime and care following plans

Nic Operating Commission

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Goling: standard

12.20 (1m) 1, Ring The Chief (G Harmon, 8-1), 2; Forest Robin (12-1); 3, Meczoramo 12-1); High Noon (4th) 4-1 k-tav. 14 ran, NR Far-So-La, Linguisto Dancer '-4, 41 M Ushar, Tote 29.20; 12.20; 23 60, 22 70 DE 322.00 CSF 296.19. Trosts. 21, 107.08.

12.50 (1m) 1, Guila Läne (3 Hannon, 9-1); Tom (4-1); 3, Moonight Fill (10-1). Taxis 3-1 (av. 15 ran, NR. Explosive Power, 41, 14 K Bell Tote, E15-10; E2-40, E18-20, 23 00 DF 235.00 CSF; 240.98 (ncast, 2356.56)

236:56 1.20 (7) 1, Theatre Magic (N Polard, 5-2 tay; 2, Godmersham Park (7-1); 3, Arc 110-1) 11 ran, 1-4, 1-4, D Shaw, Tole 13-40, 21 10, 23-40, 23-50. DF 215-20 CSF 220-21, Tricast; £148-82.

2.20 (1m 4) 1, A Day On The Dub (B Fitz-painck, 7-2); 2, Le Sauvage (10-1), 3, Blue Hopper (9-4 Ji-lay) Berisano 9-4 n tay 6 man, 114, 114, O Eddy, Tote: £8.50, £3.40, £2.30, £1.30, DF: £22.40 CSF, £37.64 2.50 (fm 3) 1, China Caetle (M Tebbut, 3-1 tay); 2, King Pisan (20-1), 3, Count de Money (11-2); 4, Evezo Puto (25-1) 16 fran. Nx. 31 P Hastern, Tole: £3-90, £2.50, £3 (5) 30, 51-90, £3 (0) E8.00 Triecta, £1,730 60 CSF (271.28 Tricast £321.55 C1,700 60 CSF C71.26 Tricast £321.55 2.20 (1m) 1, Alamata Cavallier (P M Ouron, 10-1), 2, Golden Syng (10-11 kay) 3, Bur-tons Folly (100-30), 6 mar. 3, 8f. R Hollins, head Toler £15 10; £6 30, £1 70, DF, £4 90 CSF; £18 50. 5.50 (7) 1, Mutathari (J Ouron, 8-1), 2, Ko-zevo (9-1), 3, Ertion (16-1) Live Project 2-1 fax, 11 ran. 3, 4f. Mrs. 5 Lamyman, Toler 59-90; £4 60, £2.30, £3 70 DF, £75-30 CSF, £77.43, Tricast £1,072 57, Jackpots not vero freed of £16,047.57

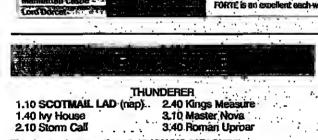
Jackpot: not won (pool of £16,047.57 Placepot £742.50. Quadpot £27.70

Nog5 Rod1

Qc6 Kc7 Kb7

Ka6 QM1 Kb7 Kb7 Ka8 Kb8 Kb8 Kb8

K¢6 Kb5



GOING: SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES (INSPECTION 7.45AM).

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.40 KING'S MEASURE

1.10 SV RUTTER NOVICES HURDLE (£2,840: 2m 4i) (12 sunners)

BETTONG: 2-1 Scotnad Lad. 4-1 Asiac Piyer, 5-1 Liedajane; 11-2 Global Lugand; 8-1 Valigue, 12-1 Fligh Pyers Northern Accord, 33-1 offices.

1896: NO CORRESPONDES ARECTING.

Scotmed Last beel Justify General a distance to 10-tumor novice hands as Aye (2m 4, heavy); previously 54/4 4h of 18 to Assate Bob M ninder to You're Appaden in specie handless are set of 17 to 15 to 80 in novice frontise at Newcessite (See, good to soid with Bathymera Boy (16 worse oil) 741 10th and novice! Foruntise (2m 5) 119yd, settl; previously 7/2 2nd at 0 to Symmetra Nov (16 worse oil) 7/41 10th and novice! Arrolless handless handless handless handless handless at Mandata Rance (2m 5) 119yd, settl; previously 7/2 2nd at 0 to Symmetra key law (2m 40 they) with . Subhymera Boy (lawes) 0/7 10th. High! Pyreness 33/7 to at 14 to Lord Lamb in novice handless (2m 40 they) with . Subhymera Boy (lawes) 0/7 10th. High! Pyreness 33/7 to at 14 to Lord Lamb in novice handless (2m 40 they); previously bester a discussor (See 30 at 10 to Estatest Desse 4 movies handle states (2m 110yd, heavy); previously bester a discussor (See 30 at 10 to Shand) Gensty, in novice handle at Age. Cox, soit, Suprember larget at all in novice handless (2m 41 1994, heavy); previously the steril at Cartiste (2m 41 1994, heavy); previously at 14 to 12 to Portionedra is novice handle at Sadgethed (2m 5) 110yd, pood).

1.40 POLYFLOR HANDICAP CHASE (£3,526: 3m) (4 numbers) 2P/GF3 RVY HDUSE 36 (B.D.G.S.) (Mrs. I. Joughin) J.J. O'Neill 11-11-10 R Angelmin 1888 6F-442 COMMETTED SCHEDULE 10 F.B.S.) (Sthodin Partessing) M Richaett 8-11-5 A Double 105 34-12F MALAWY 13 (B.D.D.S.) (W Belber) J. Jedecom 9-11-3 To Tomber 131 /BTF-3 SURRY LETH 17 (S) [G Commit P Montants 6-18-1 C McCommett (S) 68 BETTING: 5-4 by House, 11-8 Committed Schoolin, 11-2 Metami, 12-1 Spring Lath.

I TO AMERICAN STREET, NY HOUSE, clear of the recognition when third in Dost-time bilinkers latest, leads the ope to best

2.10 STANLEY CASINO NOVICES CHASE (£3,631: 2m 4) (6 runners): 1 2-2729 BOBBY GRANT 15 (D.B.S) (Li Thompson) C Gast 6-11-5 ... C. McCarmack (3) 2 60-420 FORESHORE MAN 36 (S) (Li M G Promotors Lat) B Rotter 6-11-5 ... A 5 Shart 92-032 MARDEN GLEN 17 (5) (At Widton) J Starry 6-11-5 ... G Storry 96-4 34-724 MR FRANCEMN 10 (6) (Authorish thereforms Let) H Richards 6-11-5 ... A Dobtim 106 5-6-046 WHAT'S THE BUZZ 48 (Mr S Shalt) Mr S Shalth 6-11-5 ... Mr J Constay (5) 48 6 /1130 - STORM CALL 283 (5) (C Whitnes) (Li Whitnes 8-11-0 ... B Harding ...

water's Time Blazz.

Bobby Grant, ID Set of 6 to Anders Scout in spyles chann at Watherby (Sm. 11, soft), previously stack and of 11 to Total's 17 to a polyte chann at Watherby (Sm. 11, soft), previously stack and of 11 to Total's 17 to a polyte chann at Watherby (Sm. 11, soft), Promotione Man Sci 14th of 19 to Assarie Bob in medicine hand-local hundle at Watherby (Sm. 41 11), d. soft), Handian Gian 244 2nd of 6 to Supreme Soviet to outlos bandicup chans at Mary (2m 41, newly); previously 744 3nd of 10 to District in mode case at Kelso (2m 11 10), d. seary). Me francisco 31 test of 4 to Channey's Sagn in modes handicup chale at Air (2m 41, heavy); previously 51 2nd of 9 to Marestour in modes chans at Heaten (2m 110), d. heavy); Sorm Call Sci 77 to 0 9 to Callstown Bey in bandicup burdle at Perith (2m 41 110), d. heavy); previously 91 3nd of 7 to Previous Cru Is novice heading in Mares (2m 110), heavy).

BORBY GRANT has something in hand on the form book and can open his chase account.

2.40 NORTHERN DIAGE HANDICAP HURDLE (INTERMEDIATE RACE) (£4,342: 2m) (6 numers)

Long handicag: Just Lizzle 6-13

BETTRIG: 11-8 Kings Meesure, 5-2 Retito, T1-4 Lord Podgels, 12-1 Bernard Seven, 25-1 Just Luzie, 50-1 Jacob

| Kings Measore 111 4th of 7 to World Express in blandicap burdle at Kerng-tion (2on 51, soll); previously hast Zander 21 in 5-stone feardicap burdle at Any (2on 41, beavy); proviously 22 2nd of 5 to Caucitione Gale in bendicap burdle at Hoydock (2on 41, sols). Lord Protestal 2xi3 2nd of 6 to Cystal Gill to bundlespherelie at Any (2on, heavy) with Bernard Sovien (1th belief of 1) 24 615 hast display to the collection of the first Bernard Sovien (1th belief of 1) 24 615 hast display (2on burnly); previously 71x1 3rd of 6 to Estay in bendicap burdle at Hedjam (2rt. heavy).

ROBBO was again outputy to find one too good last time and, off the same mark, may now go one better

3.10 ADVENT RACECOURSE CATERING HOVICES CHASE

7.F-31 MASTER MOVA 60 (CD.S) (Mrs.S Camacho) Miss. J.A Canacho 9-11-11 R Gamity 85 - SS-12 MERICHARA 14 (C.D.A.S.) (Mrs.S Chambert) I. Lungo 7-11-11 ... R Supple 1669 PSS-902 (J.G.F.C CHEPPE II (B) (48 Partnership) W. Korp 8-11-4 ... B. Harding 20 (20 MPGERHALL 54 GD.F.S.) (M. Thompson) V. Thompson 18-11-4 ... Mr. M Thompson - WOOD, HOUSE F Phendings II Phendings II (F) Medical 18-11-4 ... C McCommack (3) 41 ... PPPSP POLITICAL MANDATE 11 (6 Mann) R Histon 6-10-13 ... C McCommack (3) 41 DETTING: 6-11 Master Move, 5-4 Monshair, 25-1 Chief Chiopie, 33-1 Propertie, Political Mandale, 50-1 Wool

Haster Move heal Bold Action 16/ in 12-namer nortice chase at Newcastle.

Gin, good to soll; provincely healen a distance heat of 3 to Baldas in backer.

Can harde at Wolney's Gen 41 10(4), good, Meastern boston a distance.

2nd at 4 to Charalen Chief in newce chase at blaydock (2ns 41, soll); previously beat Air Francipard St to 9-namer nortice chase at Newcastle (2m 41, beavy). MASTER NOVA and Menshaar look to have this between them with the former preferred at the air

3.40 DONCASTER BLOODSTOCK SALES/EBF MARES STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT (£1,532: 2m) (11 runners)

BERREGUERIA KATE (P Needkam) P Needham 6-11-4
04- CDLMARANN 233 (K Felhar) Mrs S Smith 7-11-4
04- CDLMARANN 233 (K Felhar) Mrs S Smith 7-11-4
04- CDLMARANN 233 (K Felhar) Mrs Storey 5-11-4
KATE MLRYPH (P Matphy) D Stare 5-11-4
KATE MLRYPH (P Matphy) D Stare 5-11-4
ROMAN LEPHONA (Mrs It Needer) Mrs D Thomson 5-11-4
ROMAN LEPHONA (Mrs It Needer) Mrs Demond 5-11-4
D WORTHY (DANGER 48 (F Robord) J Cheriton 6-11-4
3- WYMYARD DANGER 232 (J Halt) Mrs M Reveley 5-1
FINE AND ROSY (Mrs I Palmar) M Dods 4-10-6
REMEMBER EDURANNE (K SROW) D Eddy 4-10-6

WYNYARD DANCER showed promise on her only start lest assess and should give a good as:

P Muso R Gertay D Parket A Dobbin B McStath B Storey R Supple L Wyer 8 Handen A S Smile Mrs. M Ro 13354145226528655

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield: 1.30 Callitwhatyouwant, Itsalihappening, Zola Power. . .

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent discussed the bidding on this TGR hand vesterday. N-S game Rubber bridge **4** QJ878 ♥ 53 0 10982 AAK 4 AK1094 A 532 ♥AKSS78 C Q 1042 ♦ K785 SLDAG 4 J 10765432 Simpson Countries 4 NT 5 C 58 BC 5 H Double Ali Pass Double Contract: Six Clubs doubled, by South. Lead: ace of sparies.

After an auction with several dubious calls, Colin Simpson drew a dummy containing two jokers as well as a couple of goodies in diamonds. But there was still a point of tech-

After ruffing the spade he crossed to dummy with a club. He then carefully played a diamond to the queen. When that held he could draw the other trump, and run the ten of diamonds. Note the impor-tance of the early diamond finesse - if be draws both trumps before tackling diamonds, he cannot pick up East's king. And if West has no diamonds and two clubs (not likely after his Four No-Trump bid), the contract is not makeable even if he draws two trumps immediately.

This year's Camrose series has been made more excit-Republic of Ireland who have rejoined the series after a long absence. In the first round Eire beat Wales 48-12. Scotland beat Northern Ireland 48-12 and

England had a bye.
In this second round
England, after losing the
first two sessions to Wales, rallied to take the third convincingly and beat Wales overall. 34-26. Northern Ireland, playing at home, beat Eire 33-27 while Scotland had a bye. In the next round England travel to Ennis to play Eire while Scotland play host to Wales.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on

bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

#### **WORD-WATCHING** By Philip Howard

a. Blinis with caviare b. A Russian playwright c. A daft calendar

a. A public wash-house b. A suet dumpling.

of the first of th

YUAN a. A dynasty

b. A China c. A type of lace SHAKUHACHI a. Raw tuna

b. Mock fencing Answers on page 46



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

**Hastings final** 

Today I conclude my coverage of the Hastings Premier tournament, the UK's strongest all-play-all, with the complete crosstable of results and a last win by grandmaster John Emms. Over the past year or so Emms's results, which include a shared first place in the 1997 British champion-

ship, have gradually propelled him into the upper echelon of British grandmasters. White: John Emms Black: Laurent Fressinet Hastings Premier 1999

20 Qh3

Sicilian Defence 47 (NB1)
48 (Vd6)
49 (Va6+
50 (Vb5+
51 (Va6+
52 (Vb5+
53 (Vc5+
54 (Va65)
55 (Vc5)
56 (Vc5)
57 (Vb6+
58 (Vc6+
58 58 Qc5+ 59 Qb6+ 62 Qua 63 Qd4 64 86 65 87 18 Rad1

5 Ponomario

2 Sadler 3 Emms 4 Speelman 8 Freesing

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Lobron - Lutz, Germany, 1998. How can White make the

most of his advanced e-pawn?

Solution on page 46





David Johnson, the champion National Hunt owner, is multing over the Cheltenham Festival options for Cyfor Malu, with the Martin Pipe-trained gelding featuring among the entries for both the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup and Queen Mother Champion Chase (Chris McGrath writes). "He loves Cheltenham." Johnson said at Fontwell yesterday.
"But he has never gone over the Gold Cup trip and we're in the dark whether he'll get it.

though Martin Pipe thinks he will. But he travels so well, we must have a look at the other race. With all due respect, there are no obvious stars around over two miles. He could be the horse they all have to beat. To me, the Gold Cup looks a lot tougher." He will run next either in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday week, against See More Business and Escartefigue, or the Game Spirit Chase at New-

# Banks puts boot in as £25m battle commences

By JOHN GOODBODY AND RAYMOND SNODDY

TONY BANKS yesterday gave warning of the damage to English football if the Premier League loses its legal rights to negotiate as a body for televising the national game. Speaking on the eve of the historic court case in London, the Minister for Sport publicly criticised the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), a govern-ment-funded body, which today begins its claim that the



Banks: implications

Premier League is acting as a cartel. The case, which is likely to last four months and cost £25 million. has already aroused widespread anger. Yesterday, Banks joined in the

He said: "If indeed the OFT were to find against the foot-ball authorities and the broadcasting authorities ... then there would be profound implications, damaging implica-tions for the whole structure of

football in this country." The OFT considers that in

rights collectively the clubs are acting as a cartel — one that would be unacceptable in any other industry. It claims that the cartel curtails choice and raises costs for television viewers, by preventing clubs from selling their rights independently and also restricting the number of games being shown on television.

Speaking in London at the launch of the Football Task Force's report on football in the community, Banks quoted John Bridgeman, the Director-General of Fair Trading, who said: "Any other business acting in this way would be sub-ject to competition laws and I see no reason why the selling of sports coverage should be treated differently.

Banks then claimed the difference was that "football is a sport that happens to be a business rather than a business that happens to be a sport".

He defended his right as a minister to make his views known - before the case begins today in the Restrictive Practices Court — by saying that Bridgeman had been publicly quoted on the subject and that therefore he was entitled to comment.

The Premier League has already said that it will be "fighting for its life" in the case, the most expensive in British sporting history, because it is feared that ten clubs, including Arsenal and Manchester United, will break away and set up their own competition. The League believes the case

is damaging and a waste of money. It estimates its own costs at more than £7 million and believes that the other defendants, the BBC and BSkyB,



in which News International, owner of The Times, has a 40 per cent stake, will spend simi-Sky are, at present, parties to the £743 million four-year deal with the Premier League to screen matches and high-lights. The OFT will spend more than £2.5 million of taxpayers' money even before any possible appeal against a verdict, which is not expected

If the OFT were to win the case, it is claimed that up to £35 million will be lost to

grass-roots football. The Premier League yesterday agreed that 5 per cent of any future television deal will be diverted from the professional game into schools and public playing fields.
This announcement was

made at Wormwood Scrubs, in West London. David Mellor, the chairman of the task force, said that the increasing commercialisation of the national game may have brought speed of this development has created unease about the way

the game is heading. There is adds: "Overall, activity by also much talk of the game being awash with money at the highest level while facilities in schools and at the grass roots are in a poor state of repair and clubs in lower divisions

struggle to survive." The task force, which is backed by the Government, wants more professional footballers to become involved in local community work, with the report stating that players from all divisions made a total of only 4,000 recorded community appearances in 1996. It players in the top division would seem to be decreasing."

The statement has been criticised by Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Profes-

sional Footballers' Association (PFA), who has pointed out that it was the PFA that originally set up the community programme and its members have worked hard to make it

Taylor claims that he was not invited to the launch yesterday and has resigned from the

#### Wycombe Yeovil in sight of record **Bassett** Cup run

By Russell Kempson AND RICHARD HOBSON

THINK of a giant-killing act in the FA Cup and Yeovil Town spring to mind. At Huish Park tonight, the Somerset club will aftempt to claim their nineteenth victory against Football League opposition when they face Cardiff

City in a third-round replay.
Yeovil, from the Football
Conference, almost extended
their scalping record at the first attempt when they were denied only by a late equaliser in the 1-1 draw at Ninian Park ten days ago. Cardiff, the Nationwide League third division leaders, won 4-1 at home to Hardepool United on

Fifty years ago. Yearli reached the fourth round of the Cup for the only time in their history after wins against Romford, Weymouth and Bury. Their 2-1 win against Sunderland, then of the first division, still ranks as one of the competition's greatest upsets, even though they were subsequently humbled 8-0 by Manchester United at Old Trafford in the fifth

Yeovil or Cardiff will play the winners of tonight's replay between Sheffield United and Notts County at Meadow Lane Steve Bruce, in his first season as United's player manager, is prepared to select himself after criticising his team for a lack of passion and spirit during the I-I draw at

Bramall Lane ten days ago. His comments irked Notts County, who felt that they de-served more credit for holding United to a draw. Fifth from bottom of the second division. County have suffered eight defeats at home this season and Sam Allardyce, the manager, admits he needs to strengthen the team.

The victors of the replay between Barnsley and Swindon Town at Oakwell tonight will take on Bournemouth at home in the next round. Barnsley and Swindon drew 00 in their first game at the County Ground.

may try to line up

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON AND STEPHEN WOOD.

TEIL SMILLIE, the manager of Wycombe Wanderers, was: dismissed yesterday after only Il months in charge. The Nationwide League club, 22nd in the second division, could now offer Dave Bassett, the former Nottingham Forest manager, a swift return after his departure from the City Ground last week.

Smillie succeeded Gregory at Adams Park in February and was given the job permanently on the final day of last season. Wycombe won only one of their first 16 games this season and despite a modicum of improvement towards the end of the year, they have lost their past three matches.

Bayern Munich are considering making an offer for David Beckham, the England and Manchester United midfield player, as they look to strengthen their squad for the expanded European Cup Champions' League next sea son. "We are in the market for players like Beckham, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the Bay-ern vice president, said yesterday. "We are in the hunt for a superstar of his calibre."

Teddy Sheringham has expressed his frustration at his lack of opportunities at Old Trafford. With Andy Cole, Dwight Yorke and Ole Gun-nar Solskjær ahead of him in the pecking order. Sheringham has started only six senior matches this season. "The manager has four strikers to choose from which makes things difficult for me, "Sheringham said. "I'm not coping very well with not playing regularly in the first team." Bolton Wanderers are hoping to add to their Scandinavi offered Brondby El million for the services of Bo Hansen, a

Denmark-born striker. Marcel Desailly and Frank Leboeuf, of Chelsea, and Emmanuel Petit, Patrick Vicira and Nicolas Anelka, of Arsenal, are in a France squad of 18 for the match against

SAILING

Ainslie

doses in

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Morocco on January 20.

CRICKET: TEST-PLAYING NATIONS AGREE TO SURRENDER CONTROL OVER PLAYER DISCIPLINE

# ICC given power to act over match-fixing

THE International Cricket Council ' (ICC) has been granted new powers to impose authority on the issue of match-fixing, which is threatening to undermine the sport after the accusations made against Salim Malik, of Pakistan, and more recently, allegations of the involvement of players with South Asian bookmakers. Where individual countries were previously allowed to determine their rules on player discipline, they will now be bound by the ICC's own uniform penalties.

A landmark decision to relinquish an element of sovereignty was agreed unanimously by the nine Test-playing countries at a two-day executive meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand. which David Richards, the ICC chief executive, described as "historic". A

AMERICAN FOOTBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL); Play-of

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sunday: Edin-burgh Rocks 95 Manchosler Gents 87

BY RICHARD HOBSON

three-man commission, independent of any cricket board, will be convened before the end of February to oversee investigations into allegations of bribery and recommend punishments.

It will have authority to order any of the ICC's member nations to carry out an independent inquiry into match-fixing, and then to conduct its own review if the results are deemed to be unsatisfactory. Each country will be required to set up its own judicial process for handling cases. There is also provision to punish a country failing to comply with procedures.

After the introduction of match referees and a code of conduct in 1991, the ICC can now govern in the true sense of the word. Richards, his

bt J Baker (frej 7-67-67-0, D Holt (Eng) bt A Allcock (Eng) 3-7, 5-7, 7-5, 7-2, 7-3

HEATON GOLD CUP: 1. Lord Wr (GB) 252 33sec: 2. Count L. Marer 253 61. 3. G Pitsch (Switz) 255 44

CYCLING

hands tied in the past, said: "This meeting has given the ICC teeth. We can take cricket into the next century with restored dignity and harmony.

The image of cricket was tarnished when Shane Warne, Mark Waugh and Tim May, of Australia, first made accusations against Salim in 1994. More allegations over the connection of Warne and Waugh with bookmakers forced the ICC to act to restore credibility. "We have a serious problem, but the view of the board is that this is not rampant through the game," Richards said.

Delegates will reassemble at Lord's in June, when plans for a world championship of Test matches are also on the agenda. There is still indecision

FOR THE RECORD

over whether to formulate a show-. piece event similar to the World Cup or to adopt a rolling programme over four or five years - although Richards has guaranteed the future of the

traditional five-Test Ashes series. Darrell Hair, the Australian umpire, has been charged with bringing the game into disrepute for comments in his autobiography about the bowling action of Muttiah Muralitharan. Hair could face a fine and suspension after describing the Sri Lanka spin bowler's action as "diabolical".

The ICC will recommend that an eight-man version of the game features at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002. The under-19 World Cup, hosted by Sri Lanka next year, is to become a biennial event with a likely field of 16 countries.



Richards: historic decision

Sales and E Soste (fi) 22, 3, R Taran and E Pairtolchir (Ma) 24. British placings: 14, K Nurton and B Waston 58 Group Bt. 1, S Becatorou and E Tacutia (Gr) 18, 2, V Krachun and N Gaponovich (Puss) 22, 3, S and M Ward (Den) 22. British placings: 10, L Watter and S Parisn 39, 13, B Reggett and 8 Webb 57; 20, S Ress Jones and I Least 22. Soling (after 3 races); 1, 8 Westerguard and J Bolsen Molfer and B Westerguard (Den) 8, 2, J Schuernarn and G Bafv and I Borkowski (Ger) 12, 3, J Machingsi and C Hedy and E Stolkestend (US) 18, British placings: 13, L Smith and O Stevent and R Chuckshorik 44; 16, A Beadsworth and R Chuckshorik 44; 16, A Beadsworth and R Chuckshorik 44; 16, A Beadsworth and R Sydenham and B Parkin 50. Europe (přez 2 racest: 1, B Richerson (GB) 2; 2, S Molhale (Fir) 3, 3, M Decilie (Bet) 4. Other British placings: 25, J Smjetton 24, 43, N Moler 30-48, O Winstanley 3. CLIPPER ROUND-THE-INORLD RACELeg 2d (Galepagos to Haves: with miles to lanch): 1, And (A Thomson) 1,710; 2, Serica (R Dean): 1,742, 3, Craysotte (T Hectges): 1,768; 4, Mermens (B Soldara): 1,785, 5, Tacping (N Fleming): 1,829

SNOOKER

# SPORT IN BRIEF

## Smith seeks hearing over failed drug test

**III SWIMMING:** Michelle Smith, the triple Olympic champion who was suspended for four years last summer for manipulating a urine sample provided to drug testers a year ago last Sunday, is seeking a preliminary hearing at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on the grounds that she and her solicitor. Peter Lennon, had not been given access to all the relevant documents in the case (Craig Lord writes).

The CAS said yesterday that Smith was likely to know her

fate in March; a hearing date is to be announced before the end of this month. A provisional date of February 5 depends on whether the arbitration panel of three lawyers is available.

#### Arsenal feel at home

■ FOOTBALL: Arsenal, the holders, have been given a home tie in the fifth round of the AXA FA Women's Cup. They will face either Everton or Wembley Mill Hill. Croydon will play either Asion Villa or Millwall Lionesses if they beat Blyth Spartans Kestrels. Doncaster Belles will meet either Wolverhampton Wanderers or Bradford City.

#### **Duval eases to success**

■ GOLF: David Duval coasted to a nine-stroke victory in the Mercedes Championship, the opening event of the PGA Tour, in Hawaii. Duval completed the tournament with a score of 266, 26 under par. Mark O'Meara and Billy Mayfair tied for second on 275. Duval's victory margin was the largest on the Tour since Tiger Woods won the 1997 Masters by 12 strokes.

## No change for Henman

TENNES: Tim Henman, the British No L remains seventh in the world rankings despite his defeat by Rainer Schuttler, the German qualifier, in the final of the Qutar Open in Doha. Greg Rusedski, who lost in the first round to Bernd Karbacher, also of Germany, stays at No 9.

## Johnson wins final spot

**SHOOKER:** Joe Johnson and Dennis Taylor had mixed fortunes in the final qualifying round, in Blackpool, for the Regal Scottish Open. Johnson beat Craig MacGillivray 5-2 to book his place, but Taylor, 49, who will retire from competition at the end of the season, lost 5-3 to Dave Finbow.

| 27                 | SN            | OW    | REP                            | ORT           | S            |          |       |
|--------------------|---------------|-------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|-------|
|                    | Depth<br>(cm) | Piste | Condition<br>Runs to<br>Resort | Ĩ             | West<br>(5pr |          | Last  |
| metria             |               |       |                                |               |              | <u> </u> |       |
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| bergurgi           | 45 175        | Good  | Open                           | <b>Powder</b> | Snow         | -1       | 11/1  |
| cideu              | 80 t00        | Good  | Open                           | Powder        | Sun          | -8       | 10/1  |
| t Anton<br>Lanada  | 30 300        | Good  | Open                           | Powder        | Fair         | Ď        | 9/1   |
| ake Louise         | 107 125       | Good  | - Open                         | Vaned         | Cloud        | 0        | 11/1  |
| rance<br>pe d'Huez | 56 160        | Good  | Fair                           | Vaned         | Snow         | -5       | 11/1  |
| vonaz              |               | Powde | Good                           | Powder        | Snow         | -5       | 11/1  |
| amone              | 50 135        | Good  |                                | Powder        |              | -10      | 11/1  |
| aine               | 60 185        | Good  |                                | Varied        | Snow         | -4       | 11/1  |
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| Plagne             | 65 150        | Good  | Fat                            | Powder        |              | -5       | 11/1  |
| Tania              |               | Good  | Open                           | Powder        |              | -3       | 11/1  |
| eveces             | 30 90         | Good  | Fair                           | <b>Powder</b> | Snow         | -2       | 11/1  |
| inbel .            | 35 95         | Good  |                                | Powder        | SHOW         | -2       | 11/1  |
| nes                | 60 150        | Good  |                                | Powder        | Snow         | -4       | 11/1  |
| Thorens            | 50 120        | Good. |                                | Powder        | Snow         | -3       | 11/1  |
| d'Isère            | 60 150        | Good  |                                |               |              | -3       | 11/1  |
| imorel             | 35 105        | Good  | Open                           | Vaned         | Snow         | 2        | 11/1  |
| ity<br>Ivinia      | 30 150        | Good  | Open                           | Powder.       | Snow         | 0        | 11/1  |
| ntina              | 20 40         | Good  | Closed                         |               | Cloud        | 0        | 10/1  |
| igno               | 48 125        | Good  | Fair                           | Powder-       |              | 1        | 11/1  |
| di Campiglio       | 5 100         | Good  | Open                           | Powder        | Soow         | 2        | 10/1  |
| arway<br>ako .     | 60 60         | Good  | Open                           | Varied        | Sun          | -8       | . 7/1 |
| ritzertend         | 30 00         |       |                                |               |              | ٠,       |       |
| ans Montana        | 20 75         | Good  | Artificial                     | Powder        | Snow         | -2       | 11/1  |
|                    |               | Good  | Open                           | Vened         | Cloud        | -1       | 11/1  |
| sters              |               | Good  | Open                           | Varied        | Snow         | Ó        | 11/1  |
| nen                |               | Good  | Far                            | Varied        | Snow         | 2        | 11/1  |
| Montz              | 10, 50        | Hard  |                                | Powder        | Cloud        | -2       | 10/1  |
| Ited States        |               |       |                                |               |              | _        |       |
| oen                | 15 145        | Good  | Open                           | Varied        | Sun          | -4       | 10/1  |
| er Vallev          | 70 77         | Good  | Open                           | Varied        | Fair         | -6       | 8/1   |

| BOWL                                                                         |                   |        | 1_                            |                  | CRICK        | ĖT       |                                           | -   d |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|-------|
| OPTON-ON-SEA, Nortelic World in-<br>or singles: First round: D Corlini (tre) |                   |        | Adm                           | taide: Sou       | rth Austra   | Se 284   | day of four<br>-9 dec (8 /<br>nd 229 (G f | 1 1   |
| 27                                                                           | SN                | ow i   | REP                           | ORT              | S            |          |                                           | 1     |
|                                                                              | epth<br>(cm)<br>U |        | ondition<br>Runs to<br>Resort | Ĭ                | West<br>(5pr |          | Last                                      | F     |
| Apstria<br>Kitzbühel 2<br>Obergurgi 4                                        |                   | Good   | Fair<br>Open                  | Varied<br>Powder | Fine         | 1        | 9/1                                       | F     |
| Scideu 8                                                                     | o too             | Good   | Open                          | Powder           | Sun          | -8       | 10/1                                      | 5     |
|                                                                              | 300               | Good   | Open                          | Pawder           | Fair         | Ď        | 9/1                                       | l l è |
| Lake Louise 10<br>France                                                     | 7 125             | Good   | Open                          | Vaned            | Cloud        | 0        | 11/1                                      |       |
| Alpe d'Huez 5                                                                | 6 160             | Good   | Fax .                         | Vaned            | Snow         | -5       | 11/1                                      | 115   |
| Avonaz 7                                                                     |                   | Powder |                               | Powder           |              | -5       | 11/1                                      |       |
|                                                                              |                   |        |                               | Lowder           |              | -10      | 11/1                                      | ΙĮή   |
| Flaine 6                                                                     |                   | Good   |                               | Varied           | Snow         | 4        | 11/1                                      | P     |
|                                                                              |                   | Good   |                               | Powder           |              | -2       | 11/1                                      |       |
| La Plagne 6<br>La Tania 6                                                    |                   | Good : | Fair                          | Powder           |              | -5       | 11/1                                      |       |
|                                                                              |                   | Good   | Fair                          | Powder<br>Powder |              | -3<br>-2 | 11/1<br>11/1                              | 8     |
| Magave 3<br>Ménbel 3                                                         |                   | Gogo   |                               | Powder           |              | -2       | 11/1                                      | B     |
| Tiones 6                                                                     |                   |        |                               | Powder           |              | 4        | 11/1                                      | H     |
| Val Thorens 5                                                                |                   | Good   |                               | Powder           |              | -3       | 11/1                                      | 2     |
| Val d'Isère 6                                                                |                   | Good   | Ореп                          | Powder           | Snow         | -3       | 11/1                                      | 116   |
| Valmorel 3                                                                   | 5 105             | Good   | Open                          | <b>Vaned</b>     | Snow         | .2       | 11/1                                      | l I - |
| Italy                                                                        |                   |        | . 20                          | 4                |              |          |                                           | 11    |
| Cervinia 3                                                                   |                   | Good   | Open                          | Powder.          |              |          | 11/1                                      | 11-   |
| Contina 2                                                                    |                   |        | Closed                        |                  | Clong.       | 0        | 10/1                                      | i i k |
| Livigno 4                                                                    |                   |        | Fair                          | Powder           |              | 1        | 11/1                                      |       |
| M di Campiglio 5                                                             | 100               | Good.  | Obes                          | Powder           | Soow         |          | 10/1                                      | 1 8   |
| Norway                                                                       | 60                | Good   | -                             | Manag            | ٠            | -8       | 7/1                                       | Ιįĕ   |
| Gerio 6<br>Switzertend                                                       | 1 00              | GUOD   | Open                          | Vaned            | Sun          | ~ .      | F                                         | l l z |
| Sympanyana<br>Crans Montana, 2                                               | 75                | Good   | artificial                    | Powder           | Snow         | -2       | 11/1                                      | 6     |
| Davos . 4                                                                    |                   | .Good  | Open                          | Vened            | Cloud        | -1       | 11/1                                      | 4     |
| Kinsters 30                                                                  |                   | Good   | Open                          | Varied           | Snow         | Ó        | 11/1                                      | ĺΙA   |
| Munen 3                                                                      |                   | Good   | Far                           | Varied           | Snow         | ž        | 11/1                                      | 7     |
| St Montz 1                                                                   |                   |        |                               | <b>Powder</b>    | Cloud        | -2       | 10/1                                      | }     |

| 233 61. 3. G Pisch (Switz) 235 44 LIGHTHSING CUP: 1. B Steeper (Switz) 136 87. 2. M Monter (Switz) 136 95. 3. P Dethelm (Switz) 137 28  CRICKET  SHEFFIELD SHITELD: Fourth day of four; Adelaide: South Australia 284-9 doc (8 A Johnson 122, G R Parker 62) and 229 (G R | SUTTON PARIK, Streininghaur: British CCA National champlossables: Sentior (22mm). 1, S.Knight (Peugeot 406 Michelin) thr Omn 5 tisec; 2. N. Craig (Dearmont Sach) at 14sec; 3. B. Clarke (Team Rategh) at 106 Under-23 116 Sign); 1. D. Bowster (Black Country Wheelers) 51:32; 2. P. Oldham (Hope Technology) at 30sec; 3. G. Hordancke (Beauvale CC) at 122 Junifors (13 Sign); 1, S. Snodden (Ace RT); 39:11; 2. B. Saurders (Hargoves Cycles) at 56sec; 3. P. Lally (RHS-AXO) at 1:56      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDORTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | DARTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| EPORTS  ditions Weather (5om) Last                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | LAKESIDE COUNTRY CLUB, Frimley<br>Green: Embessy world chemploriship:<br>Final: R Barreveld (Holl) bt R Bacter (Eng)<br>6-5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| esort Off/p "C snow                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | FOOTBALL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Fair Varied Fine 1 9/1 Open Powder Snow -1 11/1 Open Powder Sun -8 10/1 Open Powder Fair 0 9/1 Open Varied Cloud 0 11/1 Feir Maned Snow -5 11/1                                                                                                                           | FA VASE: Fifth-round draw: Bowers United or Woodbridge Town v Camborley Town or Durston FBs v Lymngton and New Midon. Ford United v Bodington Temers: Workington v Sudbury Wanders or Garboth Town. Theme United v Wick or Vaudigt GM, Tauriton Town v Nortwood; Calherse or St Helens Town v Berneton Heath Harlequins  Ties to be played Saturday January 30.                                                                                                                                |
| Sood Powder Snow -5 11/1 1/1 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/                                                                                                                                                                                                               | FA WOMEN'S CUP: Rith-round draw; Three Bridges v Transmere Rovers or Liver- pool Lades, Reading Royals v Brighton and Hove Albion, Langford or Amold Town v Be- sach or Sheffield Wednesday, Wabord v Ban- gor City or Bedford Belles Wolverhampton Wanderes or Bradford City v Donaster Belles, Berkhemsted Town v Southampton Sants, Arsenel v Everion or Wembley Mit Hill Birth Spartans Kestels or Croydon v As- ton Wila Lades or Millwoll Litmetset  Ties to be played Sunday February 7 |

|   | Wanderers or Bradford City v Doncaster<br>Belles Berkhernsted Town v Southampion<br>Samts, Arsenal v Everton or Wrembley Mill.<br>Hill Blyth Spartans Kestrets or Croydon v Aq-<br>ton Villa Ladies or Millingt Lizmetset<br>☐ Ties to be played Sunday February 7                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|   | GOLF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|   | KAPALUA, Hamail: Mercades champlon-<br>ship: Floel scores (US unless stated),<br>286: O Duval 67. 63. 65. 68. 275: M<br>O'Meara 70, 68. 69. 68. W Muylar 65. 69.<br>69. 71. 276: V Singh (Fig.) 70. 65. 70. 71<br>277: J Leonard 68. 72. 68. 69. TWoods 69.<br>69. 67. 72. F Funk 66. 69. 69. 74. 278: D<br>Love 63. 68. 71. 70. 286: J Funyk 63. 69. 69.<br>75. 281: F Couples 69. 63. 73. 71. 282: W<br>Andrade 67. 70. 74. 71. 283: J P Hayes 70.<br>71, 70. 72. |
|   | ICE HOCKEY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| ĺ | NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): NY Rangers<br>5 Tampa Bay 2 Otrave 4 Datro: 1 Calgary<br>1 Florida 2. Anahom 6 Edmonton 4 Chica-                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 7 7                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RUGBY FIVES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | (Br) 16: 3, M Blackburn (Aus) 18. Other British placings: 6, A Smpson 37: 24, E Wright<br>95: 31, M Bazon 113 40, M Littlejohn                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| MANCHESTER: National under-25 championshipe: Singles: Casarter-finals: I Pures to P Campbell 15-5, 15-2 B Lover to N Michel 5-15, 15-9, 15-3, O Babby bt S Frager 5-15, 15-9, 15-2 A Dean to C Jones 15-9, 15-5 Semi-finals: Purvs to Lover 15-5, 15-9 Batey to Dean 15-9, 15-13 Finals Purvs to Bailey 15-9, 15-10 | 140pts 49ar (after 5 races), 1, C Nicholson and E Snyth (Aug) 52, E Lazach and B Ray-ire (Aug) 8:3 J. and G Boyd (Aug) 8 British placings: 7, A and I Budger 8, 12, T Robnson and I Walter 17; 14, P Broiherton and N McDoraid 18; 24, A Richardson and P Greenhalph 26, Pian Gold Cup; Jaire 4 races): 1, M Kuzaierwatz (Pob 30, 2, I Percy (GB) 35; 3, P Loof (Swe) 37, Other British |
| RUGBY UNION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | placings: 14, D Molfor 77, 26, R Stenhouse<br>122, 28, C Chumbley 124, 36, J Lea 140, 60,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A:<br>Postponed: Neath V Natal Widebeeg<br>(alsying today, 7 15).<br>AIB LEAGUE: Second division: Post-<br>poned: Batynahnot: v Majore                                                                                                                                                 | R Ward 21B 470: Men: Group A (after 6 races): 1, E Brasitavets, and I Methvenier, (Ur) B 2, A Kosmatopoulos and K Trigonis, (Gr) 28; 3, A Roseinator Pederson and 8 Johnson (Den) 28; British placings; 10, M Rogers and J Ganfeld 50 Group 8: 1, G Philippe and T Cartou 8ft) 12; 2, J Conte                                                                                           |
| SAILING                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | and J Dela Fuente (Arg) 20; 3, M Reeser<br>and K Burnham (US) 22 British plealings:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| MELBOURNE: World championeblos (after eight races, with one discard): Laser class: 1, B Arrs/o (GB) 10pts. 2, R Schedu                                                                                                                                                                                              | 21. M Ferwick and S Hughes 91, 24, 11<br>Jones and M Hogan 101 Group C 1, S<br>Cooler and P Nationals (N2) 18, 2, N Wimos<br>and O Smith (Aus) 22, 3, H Flochs and N Sar-                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| TODAY'S                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | FIXTURES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| FOOTBALL Kick-off 7:30 unless stated FA Cap Third-round replays Barrisley v Sampton (7:45) Mote Covers of Sampton (7:45)                                                                                                                                                                                            | sions Berkharusted v Hischen Second<br>divisions Barleng v Hernel Hempsteed;<br>Witham v Met Police Third divisions Ford<br>Unit v East Thursock Vandesel Trophys<br>Second round: Allington Town v Egitam.<br>Third round: Bedford Town v Laighton<br>Town Verticary withdray and Em.                                                                                                  |

Fortar v Cyc Livengatori v

Third divisi

| discard): Linear<br>pts. 2. R Scheda | Cooke and P Natiolas (NZ)18, 2, N Wilms<br>and 0 Smith (Aus) 22, 3, H Flochs and N Sa                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ODAY'S                               | FIXTURES                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| L                                    | sion: Berthamsted v Hitchm. Secondivision: Berthamp v Hernel Hernosteet Witham v Met Police Third division: For<br>Util v East Thurock Vandenel Trophy                                            |
| d (7.45)d                            | Second round: Abington Town v Egifar<br>Third round: Bedood Town v Leighto<br>Town; Hantlord v Windsor and Eton.<br>THE Thirtes FA YOUTH CUP: Third<br>round replay: Watsall v Totlenham. Fourt   |
|                                      | round: Crewe v Queens Park Rangers. THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI ANCE: North East Conference: Grimst V Rotherham (12:0) AVON INSURANCE: COMERNATION                                             |
| 45)                                  | First division: Milwail v Crystal Palac<br>(2.0); Queers Park Rangers v Bournemoud<br>(2.0); Cambridge v West Harn (7 0)<br>FA PREMIER ACADEMY LEAGUE<br>Under-17: Barreley v Sheffold Wed (11 0) |
| 5)                                   | Under-19: Barraley v Sheffield Wed (11.0) ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE First division: Dunston Federation v New<br>caste Blue Star Essington v Morph Town<br>SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premie      |
|                                      | SCHEMAY DINGLY TEVROE: LIGHTING                                                                                                                                                                   |

| Aud and the first                                                                                                                                                                             | AVON INSURANCE COMBINA                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| sterled FC. 7.45)                                                                                                                                                                             | First division: Milwail v Crystal                                                                                                                                                                 |
| rborough (7.45)                                                                                                                                                                               | (2.0); Queens Park Rangers v Boume                                                                                                                                                                |
| Slove (7 45)                                                                                                                                                                                  | (2.0). Cambridge v West Ham (7.0)                                                                                                                                                                 |
| v Carleie                                                                                                                                                                                     | FA PREMER ACADEMY LE                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| ėgue                                                                                                                                                                                          | Under-17: Barnsley v Shelfold Wed                                                                                                                                                                 |
| on .                                                                                                                                                                                          | Under-19: Barrsley v Sheffield Wed                                                                                                                                                                |
| 2-debenk (7 45)                                                                                                                                                                               | ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LE                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                               | First division: Dunston Federation v                                                                                                                                                              |
| tslon                                                                                                                                                                                         | castle Blue Star: Easington v Morpeth                                                                                                                                                             |
| de                                                                                                                                                                                            | SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: P                                                                                                                                                                         |
| East File                                                                                                                                                                                     | division: Bishop Sutton v Tiverion.                                                                                                                                                               |
| on                                                                                                                                                                                            | MINERVA SPARTAK SOUTH                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| ess County                                                                                                                                                                                    | LANDS LEAGUE: Premier di                                                                                                                                                                          |
| thy greation                                                                                                                                                                                  | Harpenden v Potters Bar Yown, Hodo                                                                                                                                                                |
| k v Sterhousenum                                                                                                                                                                              | v Hitingdon Borough, Now Brackett                                                                                                                                                                 |
| TENS LEAGUE: Midland                                                                                                                                                                          | ter v Bezconsteld Sycob: Somerse                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                               | bury v Russip Menor, Walthern At                                                                                                                                                                  |
| edworth v Statemai Langua                                                                                                                                                                     | Somsdown Premier chilston Cust                                                                                                                                                                    |
| nd-round replay: Rothwell y                                                                                                                                                                   | round: Badonoside v St Marparet                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Vensy v Bath                                                                                                                                                                                  | Royston v Brook House Challeng                                                                                                                                                                    |
| LEAGUE: Prespier division:                                                                                                                                                                    | phy: Second round: Cockosters v                                                                                                                                                                   |
| hity. First division: Draviscen                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                               | Paris                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| President's Care Second                                                                                                                                                                       | Group Second-round replay: A                                                                                                                                                                      |
| President's Cup: Second                                                                                                                                                                       | Green Second-round replay: /                                                                                                                                                                      |
| President's Cup: Second                                                                                                                                                                       | Griger Second-round replay: A<br>Town v Hampson.<br>NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEA                                                                                                                      |
| President's Cup: Second<br>Icham v Leich RM<br>LEAGUE CUP: Third round:                                                                                                                       | Green Second-round replay: A<br>Town v Harrigev.<br>NORTH   WESTERN TRAINS LE/<br>Final division: Atheron LR v Ramsb                                                                              |
| President's Cup: Second<br>Icham v Leich RM<br>LEAGUE CUP: Third round:<br>PS v Boreham Wood (7 45).                                                                                          | Green Second-round replay: A<br>Town v Harrigev.<br>NORTH   WESTERN TRAINS LE/<br>Final division: Atheron LR v Ramsb                                                                              |
| President's Cup: Second cham v Leich RA<br>LEAGUE CUP: Third round:<br>ers v Boreham Wood (745),<br>v Stough                                                                                  | Green Second-round replay: A<br>Touri v Harrigov.<br>NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LE/<br>First division: Atherion LR v Ramsb<br>Nardwich Town v Malno Road: Sal                                           |
| President's Cup: Second Intervolument PAR LEAGUE CUP: Third round: PS > Ecreham Wood (745), > Sough AGUE: Premier division: Wal-MGUE: Premier division: Wal-                                  | Green Second-round Peptay: A<br>Town v Harringov.<br>NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEA<br>First division: Atheron LR v Rameb<br>Namwich Town v Maine Road: Sal<br>Booke                                    |
| President's Cup: Second charvy Leich PAA LEAGUE CUP: Third round: ers v Boreham Wood (7 45), v Stouch MGUE: Premier division: Walsham v Basangstoke (7 45).                                   | Green Second-round Peptays A<br>Town v Harringov.<br>NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEA<br>First divisions Atheron LR v Ramed<br>Named Town v Malno Road: Sal<br>Booke<br>REGBY UNION                       |
| President's Cup: Second lictary v Leich RM LEAGUE CUP: Third round; ss v Boreham Wood (7 45), v Stouch AGUE: Premier division: Wal- rsham v Bas-ngstolo (7 45), v Second round: Nervon y Nev- | Green Saccond-round replay: A Town v Harrigge. NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEA First division: Atherion III v Harreso Nartukely Town v Mothor Road: Sal Bootle REJGSY UNION SWALEC CUP: Footh round: Gre |
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| President's Cup: Second charvy Leich PAA LEAGUE CUP: Third round: ers v Boreham Wood (7 45), v Stouch MGUE: Premier division: Walsham v Basangstoke (7 45).                                   | Green Second-round Peptays A<br>Town v Harringov.<br>NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEA<br>First divisions Atheron LR v Ramed<br>Named Town v Malno Road: Sal<br>Booke<br>REGBY UNION                       |





Lindsay insists that the decision to stand down from Super League was his alone

ويحذر من رائيسل

# Spin-doctor departs with final twist in tale

confirmed yesterday that he would be step ping down as manag-ing director of Super League Europe (SLE), it was with the archetypal soundbite on which be has based a reputation. "I've watched a lot of administrators in sport go on to the walking stick stage and I was never going to do that," he said.

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Twenty years ago, Lindsay learned the value of a good quote when as a new director at Wigan, who he had watched since boyhood, he made it his mission to ensure that the rugby league club, and not Wigan Athletic Football Club, led the back page of the local evening newspaper. No rugby figure in the past two decades has gone on to hog the limelight like Maurice Patrick

Certainly, few sports administrators have made themselves as accessible or mastered the art of spin. His tongue has occasionally tied him in knots, but Houdini could not have extricated himself from such tight spots. When the media gathered yesterday at Headingley amid rumblings that he might be pushed, Lindsay con-firmed the unanimous support of the 14 Super League clubs and that he had approached them for a retirement date. "It's very much my decision," he announced, Even on his way out, his reputa-

tion as the Great Survivor seemed somehow unmoved. He intends to depart when his present contract expires at the end of the forthcoming season in October, although sooner remains a possibility. He spent more than £200,000 last month on betting pitches at Cheltenham, York, Doncaster and Hay-20 years in rugby league, he has kept his interest as an on-rails bookmaker, which hardly endeared him to enemies who referred to him simply as The

If a smooth handover can be completed quickly, Chris Caisley, the SLE chairman, confirmed that Lindsay may leave early. Even then, he will continue as an unpaid non-executive director responsible for television negotiations and new franchises. For all the supposed ish enthusiasm still shines young Turks about there is still no through. As his other profession more cumning wheeler-dealer -



World at his feet: Lindsay, right, was instrumental in the formation of the Super League in 1995, which transformed the financial fortunes of rugby league

some would argue manipulative and ruthless - than Lindsay, who was anxious not to sever his links

Not for the first time, Lindsay referred to rugby league punching above its weight —a phrase often used to describe him. At 58, the boyimplies, his is a gambler's instinct.

(RFU) are considering a restric-

tion on the number of foreign

and non-England qualified players in the game. The move would benefit both sides by

reducing unsustainable wage bills as well as assisting the

development of a greater

Brian Baister, the RFU

chairman, said: "It would be a

win-win situation." The only

losers might be a host of

southern-hemisphere players looking to join a "gold rush" to England after the World Cup

The move comes as the

number of non-England quali-fied players in the Allied Dun-bar Premiership rises to 160—

the equivalent of more than

ten first teams - a situation

that Clive Woodward, the Eng-

land coach, has described as

"alarming". There is an accept-

ance that action needs to be taken if the influx is to be

stemmed and England are to

London Scottish head the

later this year.

number of English players. ...

There were times during the club. mergers furore in 1995 when he seemed to stake the game itself on getting the right price for the new Super League. At E87 million, Lindsay won but at a personal cost.

His most vivid memory of that time was being accosted outside Wembley after the Wigan team, whose rise he had orchestrated, had won their eighth successive

his wife and son stopped the car on a zebra crossing," he said. "Why are you ruining this kid's future? he kept shouting. What people wouldn't admit at the time was that rugby league was on its way out without the News Corporation deal. We went from the begging bowl to the rich man's table."

director, Lindsay was ordered to make the tea. A great club had reached its nadir of the second division and with three fellow directors - Jack Hilton, Tom Rathbone and Jack Robinson - a boardroom coup cleared the deadwood and set the stage for a domination unseen in English sport. Wheo Wigan beat Hull in the classic 1985 Challenge Cup final, Lindsay's

Wigan onwards and upwards. It was Lindsay who brought John Ferguson and Brett Kenny, two fine Australian talents, to Central Park; he was responsible for such signings as Ellery Hanley, Andy Gregory and Martin Offiah and others to make pulses race; and he appointed two overseas coaches, firstly Graham Lowe and then

'It will seem strange without him, and not nearly so colourful'

John Monie, who transformed Wigan on the field while Lindsay,

His appointment in 1992 as Rug-by Football League (RFL) chief executive was no surprise, but after the laid-back regime of the urbane David Oxley, the self-made, ambitious Lindsay came as a rude awak-ening at the old Chapeltown Road headquarters. Delegation was never a strong point, fools were not suffered and his personal mission to take the game to the promised land - anywhere outside the North, it seemed - hrought casualties and enemies in abundance.

A workaholic and ruthless perfectionist, perhaps there was no-one better qualified than Lindsay when the Super League came knocking in 1995. The windfall saw the game on the verge of being torn apart over mergers, franchises and the switch to summer rugby, during which the knives were unsheathed for the demonised Lindsay, but it is a fact that rugby league is better placed now than it

leaving behind the "drivel and dross" after six years at the RFL. Lindsay's famous tact did not make his jumping ship to SLE last year any smoother. His new relationship with Caisley, one of Lind-say's fiercest critics while at the RFL, was a mystery, but within weeks, Lindsay had delivered his parting gifts — a two-year sponsor-ship of the Super League by JJB Sports and a renegotiated £45 mil-

lion television deal up to 2003. "Since 1979, I've seen every year bring an advancement." Lindsay said. "1999 will be the best yet." It will be strange without him, less controversial perhaps, but undoubtedly not nearly so colourful.

### Ainslie closes in on first Laser title

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BY EDWARD GORMAN. SAILING CORRESPONDENT

BEN AINSLIE is continuing to set a blistering pace at the Laser class world championships in Melbourne where he eads his old rival, Robert Scheidt of Brazil, by five points with two days of racing left.
The young Briton is bid-

ding for his first world title in Lasers and is determined to stop Scheidt adding a third to his existing two, hardly putting a tack out of place

over the past three days.

Apart from the first race when he finished ninth to Scheidt's seventh, the Olympic silver medal-winner, recently voted BT/YJA Inshore Racing Yachtsman of the Year, has never been out of the top three. Yesterday he was third in the first race and won the second, his fifth win so far.

Shirley Robertson began her hid for a world title in the Europe single-handed dinghy with two wins yesterday. In the Finn class, lain Percy is second after four races, five points behind Mateusz Kusnierwicz, the Polish Olympic gold medal-winner. In the hotly contested 49er

fleet. Chris Nicholson, the world champion from Australia. leads after five races. Andy and Ian Budgen, of Britain, are seventh overall, three points behind the leaders, while Tim Robinson and Ian Walker are twelfth.

In the Solings, Andy Beadsworth has returned to the sort of erratic form that plagued him last year and that could allow Lawrie Smith to finish ahead of him at the British Olympic trials next year. Beadsworth was sixteenth after three races with Smith three places better off.

in Auckland, meanwhile, Mike Golding amounced his withdrawal from the Around Alone Race because the damage suffered by Team Group 4 after the grounding off Cape Rienga cannot be rectified in time for the start of the third leg on February 6.

"I am absolutely devastated at having to withdraw, but I believe it would be irresponsible for me to continue with the

#### RUGBY UNION: BAISTER SEEKS TO ASSIST BOTH CLUBS AND COUNTRY WITH PROPOSED CONTROLS

On arrival at Wigan as a junior

# KHU considers move to reduce number of overseas players

BY MARK SOUSTER

West Hartlepool have 12 and Saracens 11. At the bottom are Wasps with six and Gloucester with four, both of whose respective directors of rugby, Nigel Melville and Richard Hill, are keen to promote English talent.

Whether such proposals

but having taken legal advice. Twickenham is of the Tining that controls could be introduced. "We believe we could put something in place which, although not strictly legal, is not illegal if everybody agrees to it." Baister said. "There is a

He added: "There will always be a duldilemma. The clubs are businesses and the RFU is trying to look after the interests of the international game. We have to find a middle ground." It

agree to a new code. Another idea being floated is that international march fees of about £5,000 could go to the clubs rather than individuals.

At present only two foreign players, who by definition do

classified as foreign players. But nobody, he said, argued with Walkinshaw's rationale. "What we have to do is come up with a formula that does not contradict existing contracts, but brings in some

form of voluntary control." Ironically, the possible for-mation of an Anglo-Welsh league could make controls easier to introduce. The Welsh Rugby Union already insists that 16 out of 22 players in any match squad must be qualified to play for Wales.

EU: Australians with a British

the RFU operations director,

pointed out, that could create a

problem as it would mean that

Mike Catt and Tony Under-

wood, for example, would be

However, as Terry Burwell,

The part of the example.

"But if we do see an Anglo-Welsh league, then a variation on that principle could he made to work," Burwell said, adding that policies adopted by other nations were also being studied.

#### anomaly, UK passport-hold-**British** tled to such rights. As part of the negotiations with the RFU champion to find an acceptable structure. Tom Walkinshaw, the owner of Gloucester and chairman of English First Division Rugby. out on is proposing that "foreign" should be redefined to prehis own dude anyone not born in the

SKIING

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TIGNES, FRANCE

ANDREW FRESHWATER the defending champion, confirmed his ranking as favourite for the opening event of the British Land national championships, the men's downhill, with his second consecutive fastest training time here yesterday.

Freshwater, 25, made few errors despite the poor visibility, strong winds and driving snow to record 1min 21.44sec which gave him a cushion of more than two seconds over Johnny Moulder-Brown, the British junior champion. "A lot can still happen but I'm pleased with the way I skied,"

Freshwater has suffered from an acute lack of downhill races in Europe this season as he huilds up to the Al-pine world championships in the United States at the end of this month, but has demonstrated in training the gulf that exists between him and

that exists between him and the chasing pack of British downhill skiers.

No such gulf is apparent among the British women.
While Tessa Pirie led both training runs and looks favourite to win the women's downhill title today, all her compatriots attacked the course with aggression and enthusiasm.

This was underlined by the performance of Danielle Bosher, 15, who yesterday skied a much more confident attackiog run in only her second downhill race, finishing third among the Britons. Pirie's younger sister Amanda, in second place, was just under a second down on her sibling. who will have no margin for

Alain Baxter and Emma Carrick-Anderson, the leading British slalom skiers. arrive later in the week to compete in the technical disciplines.

Baxter competes in both slalom and giant slalom. while Carrick-Anderson, who is fresh from winning an international race in Sweden, will be looking for a successful defence of her British

#### not enjoy European Union would flout existing European workers' rights, are allowed in Kingsholm date is reward for Henley

HENLEY'S giant-killing at Bedford on Sunday has earned them a plum tie away to Gloucester in the fifth round of the Tetley's Bitter Cup (David Hands writes).

The draw, made by Paul Wallace, the Saracens and Ireland prop. did not treat the lesser lights kindly — only Lydney will be at home, and that against Sara-

list with 21 non-English players registered, followed by Harlequins with 19, with the suggestion that NEC, their sponsors, should really stand cens, the holders - but Henley will have few qualms about visiting Kingsholm. The Jewson National League first division club cheerfully acknowledge that they will not win the cup, but they will enjoy the prospect of playing at so famous a venue and they will do their best to cause for "No English Chaps". London Irish, with 16, come next, Gloucester some discomfort on the way. Leicester and Richmond each have 14 on their books while They reckon they have already made

£20.000 from their cup run and if the Gloucester public give them the respect that they deserve, that sum will be even healthier. "We haven't had too many Henleyites in the Shed," John Fidler, the Gloucester team manager, said, "but if they can go to Bedford and win, fair play

to them. We will prepare properly." **CUP DRAW** 

FIFTH ROUND: Northampton v London Irish, Wasps v Waterloo; London Scottish v Harlequins; Gloubester v Henley; West Harlepool v Newcastle; Richmond v Exeter, Leicester v Leeds; Lydney v

Ties to be played January 30 and 31.

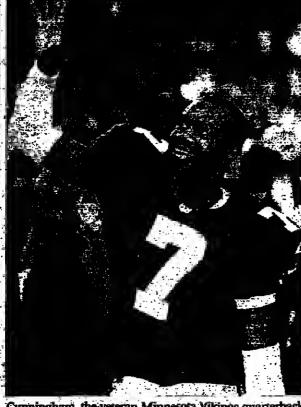
By the time Henley come visiting over the weekend of January 30-31, Gloocester hope that Tom Beim will have rejoined their stable. Personal terms with the Sale wing, who was capped by England last summer, have been agreed and both clubs have settled on a transfer fee. If the move goes through, Beim will be available for their cup side.

The tie of the round is that between Northampton and London Irish at Franklin's Gardens. Northampton have been among the pacesetters for much of the season but were dramatically beaten at home hy the Irish in the Allied Dunbar Premiership last Tuesday, being outscored five tries to one In a 32-8 defeat.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: PARCELLS' CONTENDERS ON THE BRINK OF SUPER BOWL

# Jets the toast of Broadway

BY OLIVER HOLT



Cumningham, the veteran Minnesota Vikings quarterback, salutes the crowd after victory over the Arizona Cardinals

TWO years ago, the New York Jets were a laughing stock. They had an expensive quarterback who couldn't throw, a wide receiver who openly mocked the rest of his team-mates and a coach who seemed more concerned with petty discipline than the fact that his team could only win one of their lo regular season games. Things have changed

Rich Konte, a coach who once interrupted a training session to tell me to stand up on the sidelines, is long gone. His place has been taken by Bill Parcells, the man who guided the New York Giants and the New England Patriots to the Super Bowl and now, in his second season in charge. stands on the brink of setting a National Football League record by leading a third side into the showpiece event of the

It would have been hard to believe before he arrived, but

day, the Minnesota Vikings, on Sunday, Parcells took the Jets to within one step of the Super Bowl in Miami on one of the surprise teams of this season, achieved their expected victory over the Arizona

January 31 when he led his team to a nail-biting 34-24 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars. It earned them a tie against the Denver Broncos next Sunday and the chance to claim the American Football Conference championship for only the second time.

The Jets have been revitalised by Parcells. In particular, he has instilled a fighting spirit in the team epitomised by that once unhappy wide receiver, Keyshawn Johnson. In the bad old days of Kotite.

Johnson wrote an autobiography called Just Give Me The Damn Ball. The Jets obeyed that command on Sunday, Johnson scored two touchdowns and the Jets held on to secure their game against John Elway and the Broncos. In the other game on Sun-

ference title in Minneapolis

next Sunday. The Vikings, led by Randall Cunningham, the **LAST FOUR** NATIONAL CONFERENCE (NFC) Memesota Vikings v Atlanta Braves AMERICAN CONFERENCE (APC)
Deriver Broncos v New York Jets

Cardinals to clinch their own

oe against the Atlanta Falcons

for the National Football Con-

veteran quarterback, eased past the Cardinals 41-21 to claim their place among the last four post-season teams for the first time in 11 years.

"Minnesota have got excellent football team on both sides of the ball," Vince Tobin, the Cardinals coach, said. "If

this it's hard to come back. We tried but we came up short. They are a formidable team." Cunningham, who complet-

ed 17 of his 27 passes for 236 yards and three touchdowns, has made the most dramatic comeback of the season. Written off, he was given his chance back in September when the Vikings' first choice, Brad Johnson, was injured. Now he has made the position

"My offensive line did an excellent job protecting me today," Cunningham said. "It's been a wonderful season for me so far, so much better than I could have hoped for, but there are still two games to go before I can say it was

signed yesterday after ten years as coach of the Kansas City Chiefs. The team disappointed this season, missing

# Killick bids to prove himself a step ahead

The growing trend in dance sport is to find a female Russian

partner. Ruth Gledhill reports

ance sport judges will be closely marking the marking moves of Paul Killick, of England, tomorrow as he takes to the floor with his new partner in the Star Ball at Grosvenor House in London. Killick is one of an increasing number of Britain's top male competitors opting to dance with partners from the former Soviet Union rather than England. Male dancers say they prefer the grit, determination and well-muscled stamina of partners from countries such as Russia and Ukraine.

Killick, 29, from Kent, is the most talented Latin dancer to emerge from England in several years and, having paired up with 21-year-old Karyna Kylko-

va. is hringing a renewed challenge to Bryan Watson <sup>6</sup> Russians and Karen Hardy the British No l have an Latin couple. Watson, born in enormous South Africa, and

the home-grown desire Hardy, reigned supreme, to win? on British soil at least, for the past two years. Howev-

er, Killick and Kylkova, who teamed up six months ago and made a stunning debut at the US Open in Miami last September where they finished runners-up, are already challenging Watson and Hardy in the rumba and paso doble.

The pair also hope to challenge Watson and Hardy in the cha-cha-cha, where Killick believes that Watson, the taller dancer, is vulnerable. "His girl is not of the same quality as mine," he said. "In the longterm, that is going to make the difference.

Also climbing the world rankings with a Russian partner, and aiming to finish in the top six at the Star, will be Jonathan Wilkins, 28, of England. Competing under the American flag as that nation's professional standard champion, Wilkins, from Slough, teamed up three years ago with the statuesque blonde,

Yekaterina Demidova. Our goal is to make the final at the Star," Wilkins, who finished fifth with Demidova. 21, at the world finals in Miami, said. "Katusha [Demidova) has been dancing since she

9.00% 9.38%

11.00% 11.57%

11.25% 11.84%

10.25% 10.74%

B.75%

N/A

was 5. She was also a top ice skater and was trained as a pianist as well. The Russian girls are just so beautiful and so dedicated. They have a special look that is very good on the floor, a certain competi-

tive edge."

The trend is not confined to the professional field. After a series of unsuccessful partnerships with British girls, one of England's top amateur stand-ard dancers, Craig Draper, from Sheffield, has teamed up with Irina Chuprakova. 16, from Russia.

Training sessions at Dance Options, Cheam, in Surrey have been highly encourag-ing. Draper, 23, tipped as a future British No I, said: "Irina is probably the best ball-

room dancer in Russia. She has so much natural ability, nothing is false about her." Both Killick and

Kylkova, and Wilkins and Chouprakova, will be going on to Bournemouth next week to dance against thousands of couples from around the world in the UK Open. In Russia alone, more than

100,000 couples are registered as amateur dancers, compared to about 2,000 in England. Determination to escape lives of poverty and hardship in the former communist bloc means that Russian dance sport competitors have learnt to excel in the same way as Russian ovmnasts and hallet dancers. But because dance sport has only recently become an Olympic sport, the wealth of Russian talent has not been apparent until now.

Under Olympic rules, none of these partnerships will be able to take part when dance sport makes it onto the Olympic programme, either in 2004 or 2008. Olympic participation demands that both couples should be of the same nationality to represent their country. But in dance sport world championships, as with most other events in the sport at present. the rules are more flexible and couples are able to dance for the country of either member of the partnership.

Italy is another country where British women, in

8.75% 9.10%

N/A

11.29%

11.29%

10.19%

8.50%

10.75%

10.75%

9.75%



Killick and Kylkova have already made a great impact during their six months together

particular, are finding top-class male partners — and adds further proof that dancers are prepared to sacrifice a potential Olympic medal in order to find the right partner. John Leach, editor of Dance

News, which is promoting the UK championship next week. said: The Russians have shown through their achievements in other sports and arts such as ballet and gymnastics a natural ability to transfer music into movement. They are producing an enormous number of couples, and girls in particular, of a high standard. "People are attracted by the

Russian temperament, their enormous desire to win. And now that there are fewer visa restrictions, the Russians are being considered as partners by men from every nation in the world, not just England."



Wilkins, from Slough, and Demidova are hoping to finish in the top six at the Star Ball in London

# Holt adds a fresh chapter

world indoor singles championship at Potters Leisure Resort in Norfolk yesterday after taking a leaf out of the book of his

book written by Allcock.

normally do is not working for you, you should try something else," Holt said. "So, when BY DAVID RHYS JONES

the ditch left Holt holding one shot, and Alkock in a useful "I thought I could ditch

The Control of the Co Answers from page 43

TZOLKIŃ (c) The cycle of two hundred and sixty days constituting the sacred calendar of the Maya. "The Maya maintained two distinct counts. For religious purposes they used a sacred year (tzolkin) made up of thirteen twenty-day units."

(a) Scottish dialect for a public wash-house. "It was the talk of the steamie, so to speak. It was a topic of conversation at the

(a) The name of the Mongol dynasty established as rulers of all China by Kublai Khan in 1279 and in power until 1368. In Chinese the word means "first". It also is an obsolete unit of Chinese currency introduced in 1914, equal to 10 jiao. Kublai Khan

anese words for measures of length. "The first half was devoted to traditional pieces, performed on the shakuhachi, a simple

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE 1, Bb3! Qxb3; 2. Qg6+ Kh8; 3. Qxe8+ and wins easily. began to play like a winner. Two ends later he collected another full house and, although Allcock put up spirited resist-ance in the deciding set, Holt proved to be the master.

also the manager of the Blackpool Borough indoor bowls club.

Last November, however, he rolled back the years to win the UK singles title at Potters, and he continued in winning vein yesterday when he beat his fellow Ireland international. Jim Baker, who won the

third, 7-0, in only four ends.



# Same place, new drama

BBC1, 8.10pm.

For those who still think there are not enough medical dramas on television here is a spin-off from Casualty which gets to parts of Holby Hospital beyond accident and emergency. To make addicts of the parcest show feel at home, there is a brief appearance from Derek Thompson's eternal Charlie and more on a case first aired in Casualty. But the undoubted star of Holby City is Anton Meyer, a heart surgeon from hell played by George Irving. He is as irastible and intimidating as James Robertson Justice in the Doctor films but without the jokes. "Don't do that unless you want him to die", he snaps at an underling in the operathim to die", he snaps at an underling in the operat-ing theatre, while out of his earshot comparisons are made with Attila the Hun. Meyer apart this is standard hospital fare, but delivered less hectically than is usual with this genre.

IIV, 8.30pm.

The material is familiar (difficult and angry passengers, harassed staff, delayed flights) but the arrithment the characters are new. Welcome to easylet, a brash, no-frills operation which offers cheap seats, tickedless booking and no in-flight meals. For the next eight weeks easylet will be in the eye of the camera, as will its 32-year-old owner. Stellos Hajii-loamou, a multi-millionaine who insists that his cabin staff wear uniforms in his favourite orange. He is setting off to Amsterdam in tonight's film, but has to endure the wrath of his own customers when the flight is held up. Meanwhile, Jane Boulton at the check-in desk is having to tell-passengers that easylet does not accept live animals. This is had news for 15-year-old David, who has come all the way from Canada with three lobsters as a present for friends.

Great Railway Journeys BBC2\_9.30pm

Michael Portillo is this week's traveller, tracing his family roots, and particularly those of his father, in Spain. The Spainsh Civil War hangs heavily over the film, not only for its effect on Spain in the wider sense but for splitting families. While Portillo's father, a poet and university teacher, supported the

The New Recruit Radio 4, 9.30am One of the best short programmes introduced in the Radio 4 revamp last year deservedly returns for another series. The idea is to bring together a newcomer and an old hand in a particular trade or calling each week. Today everyone who has ever moved house and watched anxiously while the removers navigated a flight of stairs carrying a Steinway grand or a Ming vase will nod knowing-ly as new recruit Julian McCormick compares notes with Howard Routledge, who began in the removal business 50 years ago. One encouraging fact that emerges is that removal men now bimp thousands of books from one home to another whereas in 1950 Routledge often carried them in a

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30mm Zoe Ball 9.00 Smon Mayo 12.00pm Kévin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Chris Moyles 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Stove Lamacq: The Evening Session. Gene and Badly Drawn Boy In session 10.00 Digital Undete 10.10 John Peel 12.00mm The Breezeblock 2.00 Cilve Warren 4.00 Scott Milis

RADIO 2 (BBC)

8.00mm Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Lip to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bles 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Vosburgh's Fluther Follies: An Insight into the world of entertainment with Dick Vosburght 10.00 Susain Jeffreys Says Males It a Double (2/6) 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.00mm Katrina Leslerich 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5,00cm Morning Reports 6.00 Breekfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Midday News with Annie Webster 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive, including the FA Cup third-round replays 7.00 Nows Extra 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller introduces coverage of the night's toothall action, including the FA Cup third-round replays 10.00 Lete Night Live with Brian Hayes 1.00ems Up All Night.

6.30mm Chris Evens 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00mm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Mark Forrest 10.00 Richard Allen 1.00mm James Merritt 4.30 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.00mm Big Boys Breakless 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Peter Decley's Drivetime 5.00 The Sports Zone 8.00 James Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

Professor David Southall in Someone to Watch Over Me (ITV, times vary)

10:00

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Republican side before being forced into exile in England, all six of his brothers fought for Franco: A vast family reunion in Madrid stagests that wounds may have healed. Portillo starts his journey at the Albambra in Granada and ends it in Salamanca where his father studied and taught: As with many films in this series the rail travel is mostly incidental, though Portillo introduces us to Spain's oldest working locomotive and the magnificent high speed train which glides between Seville and Madrid at up to 180 mph.

Someone to Watch over Mc

IIV. 10.40om

A documentary calculated to disturb highlights a rare personality disorder which causes parents to injure, and sometimes kill, their children. Munch-hausen Syndrome by Proxy was identified 20 years ago by the paediatrician, Sir Roy Meadow. The causes of the condition remain obscure, but the reason why parents abuse their children is to gain attention for themselves. Jane Harvey's report looks at cases in Britain and America and includes an interview with a woman serving ten wears in an interview with a woman serving ten years in prison for killing her daughter. The film also shows doctors using hidden cameras in hospital wards to record abusers in the act. Video surveillance is controversial. Supporters say it is es-sential for obtaining proof. Critics retort that it is a form of entrapment

RADIO CHOICE

Afternoon Play: Bawcock's Eve. Radio 4, 2,15pm

This is an absorbing dramatisation, based on a Counish legend which I learnt about as a boy and have always regarded as having a Christian undertone, there being an implied link between Tom Bawcock (pronounced Bowcock) setting off to catch a boat full of pilchards to save the village of a boat full of palchards to save me village of.

Mousehole from starvation and Christ's injunction
to the fishermen in Galilee. Nick Darke's play
brings a contemporary perspective to the tale, as
we discover in the first minute ("She'll be back
d'rectly — gone Spar"). The words are those of
Gran (Barbara Jefford), who causes unexpected
maybem when she takes in a pregnant stranger,
who, like Bawoock, has been led to Mousehole by a
vision.

**BBC WORLD SERVICE** 

5.00am The Workt Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55
My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Partermence 8.20 Off the
Shelt Stas Marmer 8.35 Pascovery 8.00 World News 9.05 Plays
in Focus: Henry N. Part one 9.20 Frank Mult Remelsered 9.50
Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Bittain Today 10.45
Short Story 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Christos 12.00per World
News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Weshey 2.30 Everyworman
A.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Megamis 5.00 Europe
Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up
8.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Megamis 5.00 Europe
Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up
8.00 World News 6.15 Bittain Today 6.30 Cynnibus 7.00 World
News 7.06 Discovery 7.30 Global Wildlie 7.45 Off the Shelf:
Stag Memer 8.00 Novelingh 9.30 Mestden 1/ve 10.00
World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Mestain 1/ve 10.00
World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Mestain 1/ve 10.00
World News 10.15 Coulook 11.46 Insight 7.200am The World
Today 12.30 Discovery 12.35 My Century 1.00 The World
Today 1.30 On Screen 2.00 The World Today 2.30 World
Business Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today

6.00cm Nick Balley's Essier Breeklast. Soothing music and Information; undetes 8.00 Henry Kelly. Includes the Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week 12.00cm. Lunchtime Requests Jene Jones Introduces Istemers' favourite pieces of classical music 2.00 Concerto. Totalkovsky (Piano Concerto No. 1 In' B' minor) 3.00 Jemie Crick Includes information updates and Continuous Classics and Alternoon Romance 8.30 Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classical sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Debussy (Prelude a L'aprea-Midi d'une Faune); Ravel (Ma Mere L'oye); Eger (Symphory No. 2 in E fiet); Anonymous (Bolero 1830) 11.00 Mann et Night: Music and conversation through the early hours with Alan Mann 2.00cms Concerto. Totalkovsky (Plano Concerto No.1 in B minor (r) 8.00 Merk Griffiths. The Early Breaklast Show. Breakfast Show -

6.00em On Air with Petroc Trelewny. Besthoven (Cello Sonata in C. Op 102 No 1); Lalo (Scherzo)
9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday. Anon (Two Benalssance Dences); Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascanding); Haydn (Plano Trio in Fisharp minor, HXV 26); Liszt (Les Preludes)
10.30 Artist of the Weel: Emanuel Ax
11.00 Sound Stories: Feude Corner Peter Staffer's dramatic acount of the meloy between Mazart

dramatic account of the rively between Mozart and Antonio Salieri and Antonio Salieri 12.00pm Composer of the Weelc Ritmety-Koruskov 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Paul Walfers, cello, lan Brown, piano. Jenecek (Pohodke); Poulenc (Cello Sonsate); Martinu (Variations on a Slovak Theme) (f)

Poulenc (Cello Sonata); Martinu (Variations on a Slovak Theme) (f)

2.00 The BBC Orichestras BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier, Shure Cherkassky, pieno. Chester Festival Chorus. Elmisky-Konsalov (Capriccio Espagnol); Stravinsky (Symphony of Psalms); Rubenstein (Piano Concerto No 4); Mussorgsky, orch Ravel (Pictures at an Exhibition)

4.00 Volces (f)

4.45 Music Mischine Tormy Pearson talks to Terry Pratchett, who has written the words to a national arithem for his fictitious Discworld city of Ankti-Morpork

2.15 Attention Play: Elemental Tales — Barecock's. Eve by Nick Darke. Winter in Mousehole sees

3.00 The Exchange: 0870-010 0444 Eddie Mair assesses listeners' opinions of a topical lisue 3.30 Tales from the Village Joel Kibazo attends a traditional Kenyan funeral (2/5) (f)

Gran taking in a mysterious lodger. With Berbera. Jefford, Diana Beriman and Cassandra Holiday.

5.00 In Tune Sean Reflerty looks at the pros and cons of taking opera off the stage
7.30 Performance on 3: Poulenc Centenary Gala Penny Gore Introduces a celebration of Francis Poulenc's achievement, feeturing leading interpreters of his music
9.40 Postscript. The Hed Flag and the Red Mask with Paul Neuron (25).

9.40 Postscript: The Red Flag and the Red Mask with Paul Neuberg (2/5)
10.05 BBC Scottlish Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins. Andrew Toovey (Red Icon)
10.45 Night Waves Richard Coles profiles the poet Geoffrey Hill
11.30 Jezz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the first of two programmes leaburing Cleo Laine and the Alec and John Cankworth Generation Band in concert at the Stables, Wavendon
12.00am Composer of the Weelc Poulenc (1)
1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 Beroque music from across Europe performed by Trio Sonnerie 2.35 Haydin, arr Salomon (Symphony No 96 in D) 3.00-6.00 Schools: Playtime 3.15 Time to Move 3.20 Let's Make a Story 3.50 Darma Worlshop 4.10 in the News 4.30 Hop, Sidp and Jump 5.00 Groneman (Puts Soneta in E minor) 5.35 Saint-Saens (Mon Coeur S'ouvre)

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Ferming Today Rural Issues with Anna Hill 6.00 Today Introduced by Winfred Robinson and large New Hills

3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey nametes the Bettle of Hastings (r)
4.00 The Learning Curve New series. The Times columnist Libby, Purves discusses life changing possibilities (1/10)
4.30 Stop Talls Business matters, presented by Heather Paylon. 5.47 Ferming Today Flural Issues with Anna Hill
6.00 Today Introduced by Windred Robinson and
James Naughtie
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament Update on
political developments
9.00 Mo Triumph, No Tragedy The television
anchonvorman Bree Walker teles about the genetic
disability affecting her hands and feet (2/6)
8.36 The New Recruit New series. See Choice (1/5)
9.45 (LW) Delity Service Director of music lan Tracey
9.45 (LW) Delity Service Director of music lan Tracey
9.45 (FM) Serial: The Doctor, the Detective and
Arthur Comm Doyle Michael Williams reads part
two of Martin Booth's biography.
10.00 Woman's Hour with Martin Kearney
11.00 Astures Insight Howard Stableted explores the
science behind death and ageing (r)
11.90 The Gatton and Stappeon Radio Playfocuse A
con-man's bull' is called. Kelth Barron and June
Whitfield star (3/4)
12.00pm (LW) News Headtines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Topical
consumer news and investigations
1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke
1.30 Fall Orchestra Leading orchestras compete in a
display of musical knowledge, presided over by
Torminy Pearson
2.00 The Anshers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Elemental Tales — Brevoock's
Eve by Nick Derke, Winter in Mousehole sees

4.30 Shop Talk Business methars, presented by Heather Paylon
5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents Comedy sketches with Geard Foster, Dave Lamb, Gordon Southern, Tim Vernader, Ben Ward and Richard Webb.
7.00 The Archers
7.15 Front Row The nightly arts programme, presented by John Wilson
7.45 Lady Susan Lavinia Murray's adeptation of Jane Auster's Lady Susan, Broadcast earlier as part of Women's Hour (r)
8.00 Trace Colours — South Africa Today What does the Issue hold for Johannesburg's write population?

the luture hold for Johannesburg's white population?

8.40 in Touch Presented by Peter White 9.00 Case Notes Special: No Issue Tracy Logen 9.00 No Triumph, No Tragedy (r) 10.00 The World Toulght with Anne McKenzie 10.45 Book at Bedtimes Name Juliet Stevenson reads part seven of Emile Zola's tale 11.00 Late Night on 4: The Patrick and Maureen 11.00 Late Night on 4: The Patrick and Maureen 11.00 Late Night on the bickering couple. With Peter Jones, Leonie Melinger and John Ramm 11.30 (FM) Today in Parliament Political update 11.30 (FM) Talking Pictures Russell Davies presents the weekly guide to films and film-going (r) 12.00em News 12.30 The Late Book Last Resort Kash Harper reads part two of Alson Lurie's novel

Kate Harper reads part two of Afson Lurie's novel

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1: FM 97.5-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 688; 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRIGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.

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THE

THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE NINETIES CAN YOU ALWAYS GET YOUR COPY? Dear Newsagent, Please deliver/save me a copy of THE TIMES

# to his story of success

DAVID HOLT defeated Tony Allcock 3-7, 5-7, 7-5, 7-2, 7-3 in the preliminary round of the

opponent. Allcock, unseeded, and desperate to collect some ranking points, appeared to be on his way to an easy straight-sets victory when he led 5-3 in the third set, only for Holt to remember a useful piece of advice that he had read in a

Tony wrote that if what you

Tony put his first bowl next to the jack, I decided to do something unorthodox, and ditched the jack." A succession of bowls drawn delicately to the jack in

second position, when Holt delivered what he later described as a "wonder bowl". Tony's saving bowl for a count of three, but my own bowls somehow stayed on the green, and I scored a full house, which not only give me the set, but boosted my confidence." Rarely can a game have been turned so decisively with

YUAN

named his kingdom Yuan in 1271, and the Yuan dynasty is often described as beginning in that year. "The wreckers had found, during their work, the foundations of a gate of the Yuan era," (c) An end-blown Japanese flute, made of bamboo. From the Jap-

a single bowl as Holt suddenly

Holt's first victory over Allcock was 12 years ago when he astonished spectators at Worthing by beating the then world indoor champion, 21-5, in the final of the English outdoor singles championship. No one in the flat green game had heard of the precocious crown green bowler who, at 20 vears of age, had the temerity to win not only the singles, but

the pairs as well. Since then, he has gone on to play for England indoors and out, and has beaten most of the top players in leading events. For good measure he is

David Corkill, who was a successful and popular com-petitor in the Eighties, has kept a low profile for the past few years, as he has given priority to his career as an administrator with the Northern Ireland Health Service.

world title in 1984. The first set took 68 minutes,

the longest of the championships so far, and went to Corkill, 7-6. He took the second, which could have gone either way, by the same score and then mopped up the

edly neurotic host and hostess giving their visiting nephew the house tour and explaining the bathroom rules with the ditty, And then there's the towel: white for hands, brown for feet, green for torso, thighs and seat; in the cupboard, neath the stair, you'll find the red for pubic hair", both surreally funny but also realistic enough to strike a chord, then you're the sort of person who may have their next few Monday evenings sorted out watching The League of Gentlemen (BBC2). It is always hard to tell after just one ep-

isode of a new series, but already it has the feel of a cult show. Written and performed by the 1997 Perrier Award winners Mark Gatiss, Steve Pemberton, Reece Shearsmith and Jeremy Dyson, The League of Gentlemen raises. its head above much of the competition both through the weirdness of its comic vision, and by the care

f you find the idea of a dement- which has been taken with every ... from remote railway stations: this

Tubbs and Edward - the deeply deranged couple who run the local shop of the fictional northern village of Royston Vascy in the mid-dle of nowhere (at any rate, nowhere you'd want to go) - not only evince that tell-tale fidgetiness when unfamiliar out-of-towners enter their shop, the shelves are stacked with exactly the sort of useless or unappealing foods or trin-kets that nobody apart from village shops ever sells.

Every stick of furniture — even

the dizzying green and brown wallpapers - in the house of Amitie Val and Uncle Harvey, those neurotic hosts who are putting up their nephew Benjamin for a night before he begins his hiking holi-day, seems to have been chosen to chime with the characters of the houseowners. Then there's the slightly strange taxi driver you always get when you pick up a cab :

one's called Barbara and he's a transsexual who, instead of chuntering on about the new roadbuilding projects, regales his passengers with the improbable details of his sex-change operation.

The scenes are full of incidental visual jokes toften groresque) and the acting is good enough for you often to have to remind yourself that all the key parts are pleyed by just three players (Dyson being the only one of the foursome who doesn't per-

formi.
You wonder how Cilla Black
and Blind Date have lasted so long es (Channel 4), in the first of which three men tried to win the heart of - or at least a date with - a 19 year-old student by titillating her palate. One produced a friedegg sandwhich, another cooked haggis, the last created sticky tof-



وي المامن الإمل



fee pudding. The pudding chef gor to accompany the female student on a a date to an Italian restaurant. Danny Brown and Kate Thornton look after the girls and the boys, respectively, but have the desparate air of doctors in an Accident and Emergency department

Joe

Though barely half as long as Dishes, the short film Yellow,

trying vainly to resuscitate a limp

of Channel 4's showcase for new directors, was at least 150 times as bewitching. Written and directed by Simon Beautoy (who also wrote The Full Monty and Billie Eltringham, Yellow was a taut, haunting film which exposed the tensions rupturing the relationships between a man, played by Ray Win-stone, his lover and her young daughter as they drive off for a seaside picnic. An air of menace builds as the manipulative young girl - jealous of the new man on the end of her mother's fingertips

he'll not be bothering her or her mother any more. Gathering the money to make even short magical films like these is a headache - certainly compared to sucking money out of Brussels if you happen to be a big farmer. In the second episode of his campaign to tweak the ear of

- traps the well-meaning Win-

stone in a situation which ensures

shown on Shooting Gallery, part British farming, Oliver Walston who himself receives £180,000 a year in European Union farm sub-sidies - spent last night's Against The Grain (BBC2) ploughing the country for an answer to the question of why farmers who grow wheat that nobody wants are feather-bedded when, say, Sunder-land's once busy shipyards are now all but silent because nobody wants their ships.

> ould you imagine any other industry benefiting from an intervention system?" he asks in his blunt, boyish manner, perching on an Eiger of EU-owned barley stockpiled in Yorkshire. "A dishwasher company that could not sell dishwashers, and instead of grain you had dishwashers piled up from floor to ceiling? We'd say it was crazy. But the people who would say it longest and loudest would be farmers, because there's a streak of hypocrisy

decides to produce either flowerpots or fluffy toys he first assesses market demand. I have never been hothered by those tedious details." Walston - who farms 2.000

acres in Cambridgeshire - is not saying that small farmers, some of whom are barely surviving, don't deserve some government help. But his jaw gapes at how we have come to accept the Lewis Carroll world of the common agriculture policy as a sane way to run farming, especially when farmers already enjoy other benefits such as zero rates on land, inheritance tax breaks, and being bailed out by tax-payers after the BSE crisis.

Like many other policies, the CAP was drafted with good intentions: but - as with feeding cows sheep protein - it has all gone creepily wrong. Anybody who has reservations ebout jumping straight into the euro should be watching this series.

6.00am Business Breakfast (20378) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (47947) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8705893) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (5178763)

10.55 News; Weather (T) (7044657). ... 11.00 Real Rooms (7054034) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (7024893) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1257589) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (18386)

12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (43560) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (40034) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (86738893) 1.40 Neighbours Lance convinces Bill to place a bet (T) (65425909)

2.05 Ironside Threats to e percie officer arouse suspicion when it turns out the man is particularly hard on drug cases. William Shatner guest stars (r) (7701183) 2.55 Going for e Song (8603638) 3.20 The Weather Show Stories about the

weather (T): (2034589) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (7178198) 3.45 The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (9103541) 3.55 Hububb (8537522) 4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (2637283)
4.35 The Really Wild Show (1760725)
5.00 Newsround (5507454) 5.10 See How They Run (6647909)

5.33 Rewind (T) (981183) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (144102) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (251) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (831) 7.00 Holiday Jili Darido samples the delights

of Tunisia, while Michael McNally takes a cruise around Florida and the Bahamas Plus, Carol Smillie brushes up her cookery skills at the Scottish Chefs' Centre in Glasgow (T) (4928) 7.30 EastEnders Tensions threaten to disrupt Tiffany's funeral (1) (943473)



7 3

Tense times during surgery in the new medical drama (8.10pm)

8.10 CROICE Holby City New series.
Life on the wards of Holby City
Hospital. Surgeons Meyer and Jordan
race against time to carry out a transplant operation (T) (457386) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;

Weather (T) (8837) 9.30 Paddington Green The bus conductor Danny Green comes into conflict with his

Danny Green comes into conflict with ris bosses (I) (30096).

10.00 Patriot Games (1992) A former CIA egent foils a terrorist attack on a member of the Royal Family white holidaying in Britain — only to become e target himself. Political thriller, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Bean, Directed by Phillip.

Noyce (T) (399541)

11.55 Silent Mictire (1992) A. Hollywood.

Screenwriter is accused by a mystery man of steeling his ideas. Thriller, with Patricia Wettig. Directed by Lee Philips

1.20am Weather (4840565) 1.25 BBC News 24 (31243771)

#### BBC2 7.00em Children's BBC Breakfast Show: The Little Polar Bear (9643611) 7.05 Telefobbies (2070928) 7.30 Yogr's Trensure Hunt (2363015) 7.50 Blue Po 2367831) 8.15 Taz-Mania (5772473)

(2367831) 8.15 Tez-Menie (5772473) 8.40 Polka Doi Shoris (8275763) 8.50 Oelde Doke (8271947) 9.00 German Globo (7325980) 9.05 Hallo aus Berlin (7324251) 9.10 Working it Out (7.188454) 9.25 Techno (5530034) 9.45 Numbertime (8378270) 10.00 Teletubbles (90137) 10.30 Weitch (5944454) 10.45 Science Zone (3259589) 11.05 Space Ark (9722299) 11.15 Megameths (1594473) 11.35 Words and Pictures (2367676) 11.50 History File (2344725) 12.10 pm. English Express (4003725) 12.10pm English Express (4003725) 12.30 Working Lunch (41102)

1.00 Oelde Doke (73716638) . 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (2524980) 2.10 Sporting Greats With the swimmer - Duncan Goodnew (22252676) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8088541)

2.45 Westminster (T) (9920170) 3.25 News; Weather (1) (2024102) 3.36 Birds with Tony Soper (r) (8147657)
3.56 Till the Clouds Roll By (1946) Musical biopic of the composer Jerome Kem, Robert Walker and Judy Garland star. Directed by Richard Whorf (28829473)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (r) (257638) 6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (664893) 7.10 The O Zone (T) (468102)

7.30 From the Edge Includes a call for better access to sporting stadiums (1) (657)

8.00 University Chatlenge Magdalen
College v the Open University (1) (1218) 8.30 Rick Stein's Sectood Odyssey The chef ventures to the Comish coast where he cooks Turbot Valee d'Auge (T) (8025) Morecambe and Wise Oulps and



 Michael Portillo travels through Spain in search of his roots (9.25om)

Great Railway Journeys Michael Portillo reveals his Spanish roots as he travels from Granada to Salamanca (T) (254947)

10.15 Shooting the Past (T) (905102)

10.20 The Whitbread Announcement Juliet Morris announces the winners of the Whitbread Book Awards (993367) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (853928) 11.15 Trial by Jury A man is accused of

murdering his wife (2/3) (1) (997096) 11.55 Weather (153980) 12.00 Despatch Box Political news (77329)

12.30em BBC Learning Zoner Open University Sidde Cell — A Lethal Advantage 1.00 A Thread of Quicksilver Advantage 1.00 A Thread of Quickstiver 1.30 Uncertain Principles 2.00 Schools: Teaching Today — Getting Started with ICT/Teaching Today Plus — ICT 4.00 Languages: Get By in Spanish: — Part One 5.00 Business and Training: Career Moves 21: — Dynamic Job Search 5.45 Open University: Reading the Landscape 6.35 A Source of Inspiration

#### 5.30am ITN Morning News (14270) 6.00 GMTV (6837218) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3601589)

10.30 This Morning (T) (24278299) 12.16pm HTV News (T) (9495367) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (45928)

Kennedy's (35102) 1.30 Home and Away Donald and Marilyn clash over Sam (1) (44299) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (T) (2935473) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (506522) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (2022744)

3.20 HTV News (T) (2029657) 3.25 CITV: Mopetop's Strop (2002980) 3.35 Rosle and Jim (8542454) 3.50 The Wombles (9195522) 4.00 Cow and Chicken (9627676) 4.25 Mike and Angelo (9382116) 4.50 How 2 (92089)

5.10 A Country Practice Hugo fells madly in love (2505706) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (1) (742893) 5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (995386) 8.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (244164) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (954928) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (330560) 6.30 The West Tonight (T) (299) . 7.00 Emmerdale Kim and Steve go on trial (1)

7.30 Who Wants to be e Million Big-prize game show (T) (75034)



A look at the everyday lives of the easyJet staff (8.30pm)

8.30 CROICE Airline New series following the trials and tribulations of staff and customers of the no-frills schedule airline easyJet (T) (7251) 9.00 Peak Practice Joanna is offered a lob at

the Beeches and Alice has a major dilemma on her hands. Medical drama, starring Gary Mavers and Haydn Gwynne (2/13) (T) (6251) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (32693) 10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (145541)

10.40 CHOICE Someone to Watch Over Me The effects of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy (T) (978676)

11.40 An Innocent Man (1989) Family man
Tom Selleck is framed by two corrupt
narcotics officials desperate to cover up their own mistakes. Gritty thriller, co-starring F. Murray Abraham. Directed by Peter Yates (T) (52939096)

1.50am The Haunted Fishtank Ineverent TV review with Ed Hall (6202085) 2.20 Highlander Female Immortal Amanda makes an unwelcome return, hotly pursued by crooks determined to get their hands on e set of counterfeiting plates she's acquired (r) (6523139)

3.15 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (45394) 3.45 Football Extra Football League highlights (r) (8284232) 4:40 Soundtrax (88555058) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen Behind the scenes of

ITV programmes (6428435)

As HTV West except. 12.15-12.27pm Westcountry News; Weath (9495367) 12.27-12.30 Huminations (6029034) 1.00 Emmerdale (35102)

As HTV West except:

(6011015)

1.00 Headfiners (35102)

1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9033270) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (507251) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (2029657) 5.08 Birthday People (8626164)

CENTRAL

1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9033270)

6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (954928) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (145541)

4.35am Central Jobfinder '99 (5402023)

2.15-2.45 Home and Away (507251)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2505706)

3.20-3.25 Central News (2029657)

5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (4275481)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2505706) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (53947) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather (145541)

MAIL AMEDICAN TO

As HTV West except: 12,15-12,30pm Meridian News; Weather 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2505706)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (947) 6.30-7.00 Grass Roots Special (299) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (62058)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Weton (1885) 227 2297 230 Thiglia News and Westfield (89.1615) 1.00-1.30 Upshott (r) (35102) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2505706) 6.23 Anglia Weather (348589) 6.25-7.00 Anglia Bows (1) (954928) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (106725) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather (1) (145541)

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (r) (21806183) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47035218) 9.00 Yagolion: Science in Focus (41044299) 9.20 What the Papers Said (72555522) 9.30 Eureka! (89663218) 9.45 Eritrea (89651473) 10.00 The Number Crew (71888541) 10.10 TVM (35818763) 10.25 How We Used to Live (35897270) 10.45 Worlds of Falth (39121183) 11.00 First Edition (18175928) 11.15 Stage One (18159251) 11.30 Powerhouse (24934473) 12.00pm Bewitched (16616926) 12.30 Sesame Street (r) (38601102) 1.00 Planed Plant; (f) Bryrseren (54455096) 1.10 Clwc (59726096) 1.20 Deri Degr. Y Planic (59726096) 1.30 Biolog Cant Ety (69065725) (59715980) 1.30 Binky Can't Fly (69965725) 1.40 FiLM: The Merk of Zorro (1) (44388247) 1.40 Fil.M: The Merk of Zorro (1) (44388247)
3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (56398909)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (56300744) 4.30
Dishes (56306928) 5.00 Planed Plant (89880378) 5.30 Countdown (T) (5638090)
8.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (69269270) 6.10 Heno (T) (95978367) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (91782414) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (56307657)
8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (T) (97985742) 8.30 Pengelli (T) (978824243) 13 04 (T) (91782469) 9.00 Rat (T) (77873742) 10.00 Brookside (T) (54158270) 10.35 Mayday (36445560) 11.35 Short Stories (T) (69873034) 12.05am The Real Holiday Show (5/8) (T) (57164955) 12.35 Cutting Edge Special: Trimble (T) (45059329) 1.35 Diwedd

6.00am Secame Street (94928) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (30657)

9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (6513367) 9.20 What the Papers Said (7321164) 9.30 Eureka (8375183) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8370638) 10.00 The Number Crew (4918367) 10.10 TVM (9583928) 10.25 How We Used to Live (9595763) 10.45 Worlds of Faith (5967305) 11.00 First Edition (6507251) 11.15 Stage One

(6520102) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4522) 12.00 Sesame Street (82116) 12.30pm Bewitched (T) (36270)

1.00 Pet Rescue (r) (1) (33744) 1.30 Roots to Success (T) (30467855) 1.50 Until They Sail (1957) Four sisters fall for American marines based in New Zeeland, Starring Paul Newman, Directed by Robert Wise (T) (61659725)

3.30 Hampton Court Palace (1) (305) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (812) 4.30 Countdown (T) (1754164)

4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (4865522) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (676) 6.00 King of the Hill (r) (1) (589) 6.30 Home Improvement Tim's refusal to break his routine makes everyone's tile

impossible (T) (315251) 6.55 Planet Pop (741812) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (606164) 7.50 Gilbert and Sullivan: The Very Models

(T) (235096) 8.00 Brookside Lindsey discovers Peler's whereabouts (T) (6386)

8.30 Classic Aircraft Exploration of the new roles found for old aircraft (T) (5893) 9.00 Rat Mark Lewis' award-winning film exploring men's struggle to control the world's ret population (1) (4893)

10.00 Father Ted A boring priest descends on Craggy Island (r) (T) (347657) 10.35 Bob and Margaret Bob's cousin pays e risit (T) (173183)



first professional bout (11.05pm)

11.05 Short Stories New documentary series A pair of female boxers as they travel to Scotland for their first international fight

11.40 Dope Sheet Animation (T) (281102) 12.00 Beyond Dope Sheet Introduction An evening of animation (9738058) 12.10em War Story (5963110) 12.15 Morris Jelly. House of Fashion (8766042) 12.30 His Mother's Voice (7878874) 12.50 A is for Autism (1928706) 1.00 Going Equipped

(9829348) 1.10 Some Protection (9818232) 1.20 Pro and Con (9732868) 1.35 Glassy Ocean Animation (7557972) 2.00 Britannia Hospital (1982) Cornedy about a hospital beset by disaster while preparing to celebrate its 500th anniversary. Matcolm McDowell and Leonard Rossiter star. Directed by Lindsay Anderson (T) (16077) 4.00 Schools: TOPI 2 (14058)

6.00am 5 News and Sport Current events

7.00 WideWorld Part three. How the peacock developed its magnificent train (3/10) (r)

7.30 Milkshake! (1805639) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (9769589) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1192980) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (1191251)

9.00 Weather Front (r) (1115831) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6551725) 10.20 Sunset Beach Gabi gets more intimate with Antonio (T) (2159473) 11.10 Leeza (r) (2046299

12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (1102367) 12,30pm Family Affairs Dave thinks he's off the hook (r) (T) (9978096) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sheila

hopes for a reconciliation (T) (9037947) 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9977367) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6398367) 2.30 Good Afternoon (4580831)

3.30 Lies Boys Tell (1994) A dying man takes his son on a cross-country trip of self-discovery to the place of his birth. Heart-warming family drama, starring Kirk Douglas, Directed by Tom McLoughlin (T) (9664522)

5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 News Update (6113251) 6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz

6.30 Family Affairs Jamle leaves home (T)

7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (6392183) 7,30 Champions of the Wild The work of the Santa Rosa National Park in Costa Rica, which was set up to provide a safe-haven for homeless mankeys (T) (5239812)

8.00 Perfect Bables New series. Developments in genetic engineering and the ethical dilemmes posed if prospective parents are offered the possibility of selecting the genetic make-up of their babies. Proneering work to determine the sex of a child and eradicate hereditary ase is now accepted practice but what are the implications for humanity it research is not regula Update (5560980)

9.00 Bat 21 (1988) Fact-based Vietnam War drama, starring Gene Hackman as an ageing Army official shot down behind enemy lines just as his own forces are about to carpet-bomb the area. Danny Glover co-stars as the pilot assigned to guide him to safety from the air. Directed Peter Markle (T): 5 News Update (5570367)

11.00 Two Gus returns to Seattle for Sarah's tuneral, only to find himself at the centre of an ambush and lace to lace with Edward and the barrel of a gun (2103183) 11.55 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and music (1702831) 12.35am Live and Dangerous Action from

round five of the Nascar Winter Heat (77906955)3.45 Asian Football Show Weekly round-up (7506961)

4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Eddie risks his tife to rescue Sonia and Myra realises the odds are against her (3065348)

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SKY ONE

7.00mm Count Ductote (83763) 7.30 The Cris Event Breakfast Strow (4604) 6.30 Hollywood Squares (56560) 8.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (66657) 10.00 The Crosh Wintery Show (58454) 11.00 Cultyl (88216) 12.00pm Jerry Jones (71867) 1.00 Med About You (82034) 1.30 Jeoperdy (84631) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (46744) 3.00 Jerry Jones (85725) 4.00 Guiltyl (86509) 5.00 Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (5299) 5.00 Star Trek. Deep Space Nine (5299) 8.00 Mertad — With Children (2831) 6.30 Dream Team (3183) 7.00 The Sampsons (6928) 7.30 The Simpsons (6928) 7.30 The Simpsons (4937) 8.00 Mertad — With Children (2837) 8.00 Dream Team (3183) 7.00 The Sampsons (6928) 7.30 The Simpsons (4936) 7.00 The Sampsons (6928) 7.30 The Simpsons (4936) 8.00 Mertad Widest Poice Videos (36218) 10.00 Greece Underged (49305) 11.00 Dream Team (68819) 11.30 Star Trek Deep Space Nine (38068) 12.30cm Highlander (29418) 1.30 Long Pay (508848) SKY BOX OFFICE SKY BOX OFFICE

Volcano (1997) SI Y BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Excess Baggage (1997) GJ Jane (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) George of the Jumple (1897) Starship Troopers (1997) Sky BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)

FILMFOUR 6.00pm Pickup on South Street (1953) (8065783) 7.30 Forty Guns (1957) (3340725) 6.00 The Typewifer the Fills and the Moute Camera (7386500) 10.00 The Maked Kies (1964) (6335270-11.30 Fixed Bayonathi (1951) (1531218) 1.05am Pierrokie-Fou (1968) (599865) 2.50 Cal (1984) (4506787) 4.30 L'Atalante (1934) (9644684) 6.00 Close SKY PREMIER

6.00sm Raca for Your Life, Chartie Brown (1977) (72201) 5.00 Old Yellin (1957) (35535) 10.00 Star Trak St. The Search for Spook (1964) (9218) -12.00pm The Directors The First of Normar Jevilson (97305) 1.00 Hollywood Buzz (73725) 2.00 Rack for Your Life, Chartie Brown (1977) (28235) 4.00 Old

Saturday's Vision

Saturday's Vision

SKY ONE

7.00em Court Ductate (83765) 7.30 The Primal Feer (1390) (2386) (231763) 10.00 Primal Feer (1390) (2386) (25712) 2.00em Destiny Turns on the Radio (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (1396) (139

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.35am Heart Full of Rain (1997)
(88787993) 7.10 American Hot Wax
(1978) (11579473) 8.00 To Brane Aleata
(1998) (40540) 11.00 Shootdown (1989)
(24744) 1.00pm American Hot Wax
(1979) 51876] 3.00 There to Say
Goodbye? (1997) (32812) 5.00
Shootdown (1988) (40509) 7.00 To Brane
Alasta, (1996) (55897) 9.00 Second
Chance (1997) (11909) 11.00 The Killing
Grounds (1997) (445454) 12.35am
Polson lay: The New Seduction (1997)
(457953) 2.10 Call Me (1988) (831874)
3.45 Pathy Hearst (1989) (508752) SKY CINEMA

SRY CIRICIMA
4.00pm Drugnet (1954) (8014660) 6.00
The Great Lover (1969) (7492863) 0.00
Three Hours to Kill (1954) (7404633)
18.00 (100 Years — 100 Houles: Beyond the
Law (8623893) 10.55 The Prench
Compaction (1971) (72718657) 12.40em
The Lagend of Hell House; (1973)
(334705) 2.15 Beyond the Clouds
(1965) (4547674) 4.00 The Black Boom
(1985) (5516674)
ThT

9.00pm Scarumouche (1982) (36824638) 11.15: The Hight of the Iguana (1984) (7782744) 1.30mm; Honky Tonk (1961) (67031689) 3.30 The Nelsed Spur (1983) (84833697) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00mm Sports Centre 7.15 V-Mex 7.45
1-120 8.15 Sports Centre 8.30 Racing News9.00 Aerobics 9.20 You're On Sig Sports
19.00 Legges Review 11.00 Institute
12.00pm Aerobics 12.30 Footbal 2.00
8 penish Footbalf 4.00 Total Sport 4.30
World Windowling 5.00 Winstitute 6.00
Sports Centre 8.30 Title Greytxund Racing
10.00 Sports Centre 120.5 You're On Sig
Sports 10.45 Inside Scottish Footbal
11.45 Sports Centre 12.00mm You're On
Sig Sports Centre 12.00mm You're On
Sig Sports 12.30 Bachtinton 2.30 Sports Sky Sportel 12.30 Bachrinton 2.30 Sports Centre 2.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00em Aerobies 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45
Racing News 8.15 World Windouring 8.45
Sports Centre 9.00 Fish TV 18.00 World
Motor Sport 1.00pm Max Power 2.00
Retting 8.00 World Motor Sport 6.00 Sports
Unimaled 7.00 Treathor 8.00 Bedmitton
10.00 Featman 10.30 Retting 11.39 Figure
Stating 1.30em Sports Centre 1.45 Fastrax
2.16 Sports Unimited 3.15 Sports Centre
3.30 Live International Cricket
SKY SPORTS 3 SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wresting 1.00 Fish TV 2.00 A to Z of Motor Sport 2.30 Dicke Davies Sporting Heroes 6.30 Total Sport 4.00 Monday Night Footbal Sported 8.30 Festing 10.00 Boting Superbouts 11.00 Olympic Series. Road to Naçario 11.30 Close EUROSPORT ::

7.30em Petry 8.00 Live Women's Cross-Country String 9.00 Live Aprile String 9.45 Live Cross-Country String 12.00pm Live Aprile Skring 12.45 Eurogaeis 2.15 Cross-Country String 4.00 Aprile Skring 5.00 Smothamothe 8.00 Europaeis 7.30 Live Boung 9.30 Relly 10.00 Footbel 11.00 Strongmen 12.00em Relly 12.30 Close UK GOLD

7.00mm Crosmade 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 0.30 The 8# 9.30 The House of Elion 16.30 Angels 11.00 Calles 11.55 Neighbours 12.25ppm EastEnders 1.00 Juliot Brazo 2.00 Daties 2.55 The 8# 3.55 Check the Control of GRANADA PLUS 6.00mm Within These Walls 7.00 On the Buses 7.30 The Ferm Street Gang 8.00 That's My Boy 8.30 Second Thoughts 9.00 Cassic Coronation Street 8.30 Errmerdals.

8.00mm Seer in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gummi Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 101 Delmatians 8.00 Gool Troop 8.25 Classr: Tools 8.45 New Advantures of Winne the Pool 8.00 Spot 9.05 Animal Shelf 9.15 Pocket Dragons 9.30 Beat at the Big Blue House 9.65 The Tooththush Family 10.00 8as Scir 10.10 Tots 17 10.30 The Big Gerage 10.45 PB and J Otter 11.00 Secarne Street 12,00pm Spot 12.05 Animal Shelf 12.15 Pocket Oragons 12.30 Beat at the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bits Size 1.15 Tots IV 1.30 The Big Garage 1.45 PB and J Otter 2.00 Quack. Pack 2.30 New Advantures of Winnis the Pool 3.00 Latie Mermaid 3.30 At Atlack 4.00 107 Delmatians 4.30 House The IV Castle Coronation Street 8.30 Emmercials: Farm 16.00 Hatysomething 11.00 Hawes Five-O 12.00pm Cassals Coronation Street 12.30 Emmercials Farm 1.00 Neinest and Dearest - 1.30 Walching 2.00 thinysome-thing 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Saint 5.00 Hazail-Pau-O 6.00 Emmercials Farm 5.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Miss-lon; impossible 8.00 The Love Boat 9.00 Hoom 3.00 Line Memors and Virtual August 10 Au

6.00am Muppet Babies 6.30 Rocko's Modern Life 7.00 CaffDag 7.30 Rugrats 6.00 The Wild Thomberry 6.30 Arthur 9.00 Children's EBC 10.00 Winde's House 18.30 Saber 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Bear/Budge the Little Hetcopter/Armal Antics/Family Ness 12.00pm Rugats 12.30 But is Clues 1.00 Barunas in Pyjamas 1.30 Little Bear Stores

PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

Follow the bizarre escapades of the ever-adventurous family in

My Date with the President's Daughter (1997) 9.30 Home Improvement 10.00 Dinceaus 10.30 Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Outst: Medicine Women 12.00em Close

6.00mm Power Rangers Turbo 7.00 Montal Kombat 7.25 Oggy and the Cockmaches 7.30 Donkey Kong Country 6.00 Gnose-burtos 8.25 Sam and Mare 6.35 Spetemen 9.00 X-Men 9.25 Fanlastic Four 9.50 The

incredicte Hult 10.15 Casper 16.30 Oggy and the Cockmaches 10.55 The Mouse and the Monster 11.00 Eck/Stravagarza

and the keoniser 11.00 Earchravaganza 11.30 Use with Louis 11.55 Home to Reni 12.00 pm som and Max 12.30 Donkey kong Country 1.90 Movgli 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.50 Spoterman 2.15 X-Men 2.40 Fastastic Four 3.05 The Incredible Huff. 3.30 Roy and Lisa's Big Fade 3.35 Mortal Kombat 4.00 Spoterman 4.25 Morgli The Max Acteur ros of June Book 4.40 From

Now Advenures of Jungle Book 448 Hore New Advenures of Jungle Book 448 Hore to Rent 5.00 Goosebumps 5.25 Eene, Indiana The Other Dimension 5.50 Oppy and the Continuaties 5.55 Donkey Kong Courtey 6.25 Sam and Max 8.50 Esi

Control of the Contro

FOX KIDS NETWORK

Classic Coronation Street 9,30 The Bran Conley Show 18,00 Jokens Wild 10,30 Hogan's Herces 11,00 Man and Motors DISNEY CHANNEL

Delmatians 8.00 Gool Troop 8.25 Class:

2.00 Clangers/King Rotto/Wombles/Bod 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC

4.30 Page Longstocking 4.00 Hoy Amodif 4.30 Rugrars 5.00 Sister Sister 8.30 Kenon and Kel 8.00 Sabrita the Teenage Witch 6.30 Driven Crazy 7.00 Close TROUBLE 7.00am USA High 8.00 Seved by the Bell The New Class 8.30 Hang Time 8.00 Tempest 10.00 Hollycals 10.30 Echo Pont 11.00 Sweet Valley High 11.30 Californa Dreams 12.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Ar 12.30 in the House 1.00 Prince of Bei-Air 12:30 in the House 1,000 Tempest 2.00 Hobysas 2.30 Ecto Point 3.00 Ready or Not 3.30 Cty Guys 4.00 The Fresh Prince of Bei-Air 4.30 in the House 0.00 Savid by the Bei. The New Class 0.30 Sweet Valley High 6.00 Hang Time 6.30 Rush 6.46 Bangs 7,00 USA High

BRAVO 8.00pm The A-Team 9.00 LAP.D 9.30 Cops 16.00 Scary Sex 10.30 Erotic Series 11.00 FILM: Best of the Best (1988) 1.00em Sex Spers 1.30 Scary Sex 8.00 Extreme Champonship Wiesting 2.30 Cops 3.00 FILM: Jack's Back (1988) 8.00 LAP.D 8.30 Bushdo 6.00 Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cueles 7.30 Desmonds 8.00 Roseanne 8.30 Novs Radio 0.00 Cybu 9.30 Via Reeves Big Night Out 10.00 Fresier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Sented 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00mm Late Night with David Letterman 1.00 Tax 1.30 The Chiic 2.00 Dr Katz 2.30 Soep 3.00 Tibs and Fibs 3.30 Nightstand 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Som-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Biocroberg Internation Television 6.00 Sightings 9.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Centary 10.00 Curatum Leap 11.30 Dark Stagdows 11.30 New Affed Hischcock 12.00pm. The Twilight Zone 12.30 The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amszing Stones 2.30 Mysters, Mayor and Miracles 3.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 4.00 The Incredible Hulf 8.00 Signings 6.00 Time Trax 7.00 Custmut Leap 8.00 V 8.00 Leio; 10.00 Siver Buffer (1965) 11.50 Sor-Focus 12.00am Dark Stoes 1.00 FLIAI: Fear No Evil (1961) 2.50 Sor-Focus 5.00 The Twilight Zone 3.30 Dark Shadows 4.00 Cose HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Crathwee 7.30 The Parited House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Smply Panting 9.30 Garden Rescue 18.00 Garden Doctors 19.30

HISCAUE 18,000 Garden Dictors 19,30
Cookaboul with Greg and Max 11,00 Two's
Country — Get Stuck in 11,30 Rex Hunt's
Fishing Adventures 12,00 pms Australie s
Strangest Home Improvements 12,00
Dong if Up 1,00 Our House 1,30
Hometime 2,00 Wood Wilcard 2,30 Home DISCOVERY 4.00pm Ren Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30
Walker's World 5.00 Flightline 5.30
History's Turning Points 0.00 Animal Doctor
6.30 Hunters 7.30 Beyond 2000 9.00 Great,
Escapes 8.30 The Death Zone 0.00
Inablazers 10.00 Yukon Quest 11.00 The
U-Boer Wer 12.00pm Antardica 1.00
History's Turnop Prevet 1.30 Enchlore 2.00

History's Turning Points 1.30 Flightline 2.00 Clase ANIMAL PLANET

1.00pm Nature Watch with Julien Petitler 1.30 Australia Wild 2.00 Breed All About it 2.30 Human/Nature 3.30 Hamy's Practice 4.00 Jeck Harma's Zoo Lufe 4.30 Annual Doctor 5.00 Pol Rescue 5.30 Australia Wild 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 5.30 Lassa 7.00 Recisorery of the World.
Cape Hom 8.00 Animal Doctor 8.30 Totally
Australia. Resourceful Riminorasi 8.30
Emergency Vest 10.00 The Last Panalless
Tomes Del Pane 10.30 Animal Delectivas,
11.00 All-Bird TV 11.30
Emergency Vest
Snoce 11.70 Othern Cinco. Special 12.00am Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Veterinanana and Hospitals 7.30 Civil War Games 8.00 The Rivino War 8.00

Arctic Unknown 12.00am The Shark File: Operation Shark Atlack HISTORY

4.00pm The World at War. On Our Way 8.00 The Fingales 8.00 The Age of Emperors 7.00 The Odessa File CARLTON FOOD

9.00em Food Network Daily 0.30 Food for Thought 10.00 Green Gourmet 16.30 Wort-Though 10.00 Green Gourmst 16.30 Worf-all Thompsoh Cooks 11.00 Wher's Cook-ing\* 11.30 Kitchen College 12.90 Food Network Daily 12.30 Surpnss Chefs 1.00 Food for Though 1.30 Thoroughly Modern British 8.00 Chies Bruno 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Winter Nosh 3.30 Kitchen College 4.00 Russie's Real Cooks 4.30 Turner's Tour of Hong Kong 8.00 Close

Frog **6.30 Johnson and Friends 6.45 Tiny** Tales **6.50** Polka Dot Shorts **7.00** Practical Teles 6.50 Polka Dot Shorts 7.00 Practical Paterting 7.35 Professor Bubble 7.30 Callou 7.35 Bug Aleri 7.55 Practicat Parenting 0.00 Berney and Friends 8.30 Tiny Tales 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Del Show 9.30 The Roseanne Show 10.00 The Jeny Springer Show 16.00 Maziry Pouch 11.40 Brookside 12.10pm Animel Resoure 12.40 Resoure 911 1.10 Special Bables 1.40 Beyond Bellet Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rolanda 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook 6.15 The Jeny Springer Show 7.05 Resoure 911 7.35 Animal Resoure 8.00 Michael Cole 8.00 7.35 Animai Rescue 8.00 Murder Call 6.00 Liz The Elizabeth Taylor Story 11.00 Se Life Down Under 12.00em Close ZEE TV

5.00em Punjab Folk Song 6.30 Music Time 6.00 Aap fü Farmash 6.30 Usha Uthap Shoy 7.00 Faith 7.30 Daily News 0.00 Out and About 8.30 Saleab 8.00 Himataya's Haar 10.00 Dhoop Meh Saw 11.00 Khans Khazana 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm FR.McPunjabi Movie: Dushmani Di Aag 3.00 Zee Bangia 3.30 Cine Maga 4.00 Campus 4.30 Zee Top 10 5.30 Asshirwad 6.00 Liberty 1-10 6.30 Humm Tare Rum 7.00 Jee Saleab 7.30 Chaito Chema 8.00 News Bulletin 8.30 Daraar 8.00 Zee Addicts 9.30 Zaneseren 10.00 Hadd Kar D 12.00am News Bulletin 12.30 Parkistan Business Week 1.00 Zee Bangin 1.30 Razahar 9.00 FLEE Urdu Movie; Armol Mohabba



**RACING 43** 

Whipping boys face further backlash

**DANCE SPORT 46** 

Killick steps into limelight with Russian partner



TUESDAY JANUARY 12 1999

Veteran guides England to second victory with three balls to spare

# Fairbrother revives glory days

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN BRISBANE

BRISBANE (Sri Lanka won toss): England beat Sri Lanka by four wickets

THIS time last year Neil Fairbrother was lost to international cricket. The batsman, who excelled in the 1992 World Cup, when England reached the final in Melbourne, and he made a hard-fought fifty, was no longer the same player. He should never have been taken anywhere near the sub-continent four years later, for the next tournament, and seemed to be winding down towards a cosy retirement.

The wheel has turned once more, and "Harvey" has turned with it. Suddenly, at 35, he has become a fitter man. He cannot swoop and throw as once he did, in his prime, but he is no longer fearful of hearing his hamstrings snap when he chases the ball. And

ICC's power surge...

limited-overs cricket, as an unbeaten innings of 67 proved here. Without it, England would have stood no chance of beating Sri Lanka.

Some time in the past five years, and it is hard to say just when, the young man in a hurry transformed himself into a senator. When the question was put to him afterwards, he said: "If it is to be the grand old man, I don't mind." I bet he doesn't. Recalled to the England one-day team in Bangladesh three months ago, when he made a half century against South Africa, the eventual winners of that mini-World Cup, he must feel that every day is a glorious adventure.

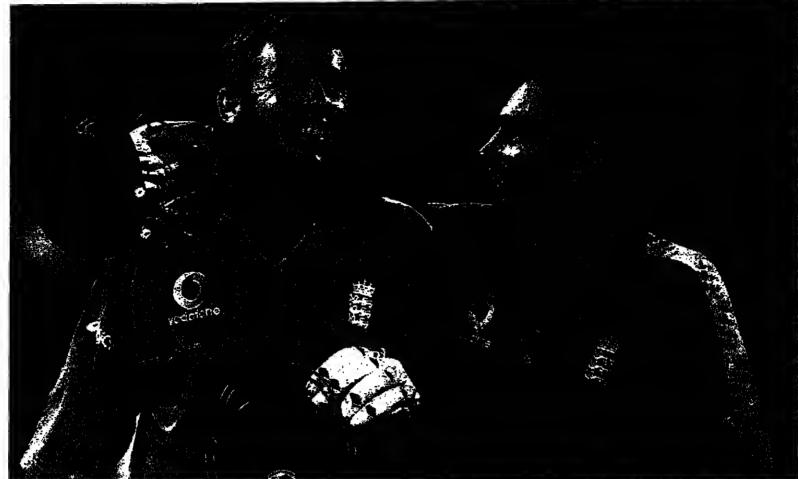
He still has explosive strokes, and he found one to Jayasuriya three overs from the end, with 16 runs wanted, but he cuts a more sober figure these days. Older, maybe wiser, but still capable of sprinting 20 yards swiftly and often, he is content to push, nudge, and squirt out the

runs, one a ball if possible. He earned his runs in full against Muralitharan, the freakish off spinner, who will join him at Lancashire next summer, after the World Cup. Muralitharan, tweaking away merrily, bamboozled three men as England chased 208 for victory. Alleyne, who some-how added 57 with Fairbrother for the fifth wicket, had no idea how to play him.

It was a spectacle that evoked pity and humour in equal measure until Alleyne was stumped down the leg side from the last ball of Muralitharan's tenth over when Tony McQuillan, the third umpire, gave a decision that could easily have gone the bats-man's way. Alleyne had collected 18 runs from the 50 balls he faced, but even he couldn't say where he found them.

flick, who struck a skyer almost as high as the Post Office Tower, was the first of Muralitharan's wickets, as he advanced to drive him as hard as he could. Kahrwitharana, the excitable wicketkeeper, followed the ball in flight towards the bowler only to retreat and take it, rather well as it turned out, directly over the bails he had left behind. With the first ball of his next

over Muralitharan beat Hollioake all ends up, drifting the ball through the batsman's defence, though the gate was big enough to admit a herd of cattle and a few stray sheep. Hollioake walked off crest-fallen. He had bowled well earlier for his own three wickets, and is a proud man. He has the knack



Croft, left, and Fairbrother leave the field in jubilation after their partnership had taken England past the Sri Lanka total. Photograph: Ian Waldie

of making decent runs in these matches, and is an important player in this side, balancing the team at No 6 or, on this occasion, at No 5, which is, in fairness, one place too high. His dismissal made the score 130 for four and for a time all that Fairbrother and Alleyne could do was wave to each other, hoping there would be the occasional poor ball to put away. There were none. Instead they scampered singles, and preserved the six wickets

England still had. When Alleyne went, Ealham followed at once, and it took some sensible batting from Croft, who squeezed out runs through mid-wicket, to win the match with three balls to spare.

Sri Lanka made a fair start after Ranatunga won the toss. A thigh strain deprived them of the wonderful De Silva, and he may miss the whole tournament, but even without him there is plenty of scope in this batting order. Fortunately for England, Gough removed Jayasuriya in his first over, Hick holding a simple catch at second slip.

Kaluwitharana, and, latterly, Tillekeratne all passed fifty but the innings never gathered the sort of momentum that Sri Lanka wanted. Hollioake saw to that, taking three good wickets, after Kaluwitharana had swept Croft to deep square leg. Headley, the catcher, was the only one of six bowlers not to take a

FULL SCOREBOARD FROM BRISBANE

wicket. Mullally, the matchwinner on Sunday, again, bowled well and Croft gave the batsmen little to hit.

Eventually, England got the runs they needed and Alec Stewart was pleased with his team's spirit, and their per-formance. "It's hard to win two games back-to-back in temperatures like that," the England captain said. "We may not have won the Ashes, but we're looking forward to this series, and have made a

plied his own comments. Looking back to the last World Cup, and ahead to the one that starts in May, he thought "the roles have been defined, strategies have been laid out, and teams have been picked with them in mind. We know where

good start." Pairbrother sup-

hottine - 0891 881461. Reports. updates and commentary.

Score after 15 overs: 72 for 1 England wors by four wickets.

der Merwe (South Africa). Art. (2:363. TOURNAMENT DETAILS: Jim 10: England of Australia by 8 nms (revised larget).

ENGLAND SATCHES TO COME (all day-night); Jen 15: v Australia (Mai-bourne); Jen 17: v Australia (Sydney); Jen 17: v Australia (Sydney); Jen 18: v St. Larka (Maibourne); Jen 28: v St. Larka (Maibourne); Jen 28: v St. Larka (Path); Feb 3: v St. Larka (Sydney); Feb 3: v Australia (Sydney); Feb 16: Feb 18: v Australia (Sydney); Feb 16: Tel (Maibourne); Feb 18: Total fired (Melbourne). Feb 18: Titled fired (Melbourne).

we are going, and the spirit is very good."

The Times one day series Calls cost 50p per minutes.

spectators in West London.

Bristor's aggressive stance the union's self-imposed dead-line of January 31 for next season's structure to be agreed.

**ACROSS** Marcel -, Fr. author (6)

4 A vegetable: hurgeon (6) 8 Warm and comfortable (4) 9 Detailed examination (8) 10 Wife of US president (5,4) 13 Grey; (face) pale with shock

(5) 15 Fusion (5) 16 (Japanese) mattress/bed (5) 18 A disbelieved prophet of doom (9)

21 (Body) framework (8) 22 Cut up; cut of meat (4) 23 Rectangular (6) 24 Daze (6)

DOWN 1 Quieten (6)

2 Impede (8) 3 Fish by dragging net (5) 5 Mindlessly optimistic perso (after E Porter) (9) 6 Displace (from role) (4) 7 One from Florence region (6)

14 Privation (8) 16 Humiliating failure (6) 17 Meddle (with eg mecha

(6) 19 Skull cavity (5) 20 Moor; fierce, terrible (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1611 ACROSS: 1 Shamefaced 8 Bolster 9 Slash 10 Bind 11 Filament 33 Lubber 15 Wattle 17 Body blow 18 Evil 21 Taint 22 Inanity 23 Gamekeeper DOWN: 2 Helen 3 Mate 4 Firkin 5 Castaway 6 Dialect 7 Chatterley 8 Bubble bath 12 Verbatim 14 Bidding 16 Yorick 19 Voile 20 Jade

TIMES TWO NEW YEAR WEEKEND JUMBO SOLUTION ACROSS: 1 Braggadocios 7 Brasilia 12 Click 16 Gas lamp 17 Mansion 18 Period piece 19 Nineteen to the dozen 20 Tantrist 22 Prehensile 23 Strawberry blonde 26 Aria 27 Dragooning 28 Room service 31 Mummerset 32 Commercial 34 lnk sac 36 Theme 38 Top-drawer 41 Act the fool 43 Chersonese 44 King's Lynn 45 Ratel 47 Thirst 48 Saltarelli 50 Ras Tafari 53 Magnificent 55 Blackamoor 56 Utah 58 Character witness 60 Grand Duchy 62 Unsafely 63 Marriage settlement 67 Barquentine 68 Askance 69 Imitate 70 Ruled 71 Noblemen 72 Press gallery

DOWN: 1 Begin 2 Absenteeism 3 Grantees 4 Depressurisation 5 Come to light 6 Ornate 8 Rondo 9 September 10 Lark 11 Apocalypse 12 Capital transfer tax 13 Iberian 14 Keep the peace 15 Silent film 21 Arrogamty 22 Playmate 24 Angle-iron 25 Concurrent 29 In short 30 Cerebrospinal fluid 33 Chapsticks 35 Thanks for nothing 37 Echoing 39 Pied-4-terre 40 Wake-robin 42 Aimighty 46 Atomic number 49 Leaf-stalks 50 Remorseless 51 Attaché case 52 Dirty linen 54 Taiwanese 57 Edgehill 58 Austral 61 Temper 64 Paris 65 France 11 Line 14 Paris 15 Austral 61 Temper 64 Paris 15 Austral 61 Temper 65 Paris 15 Aust 59 Austral 61 Tenner 64 Reade 65 Teeny 66 Limb

RON ATKINSON will begin

the unenviable job of trying to

keep Nottingham Forest in the FA Carling Premiership on Fri-

day. His appointment as man-

ager until the end of the sea-

son was confirmed in a state-

ment to the Stock Exchange

yesterday and Peter Shreeves.

who watched the 4-0 defeat

against Coventry City on Sat-

urday, has already begun em-ployment as his assistant.

the club has given Atkinson permission to continue a holi-

day in Barbados to celebrate

his wife's 50th birthday today.

His position will be reviewed

in the summer and he will

earn a bonus of £250,000 if

Forest avoid relegation. Micky

Adams will revert to coaching

having taken temporary charge after the sacking of

Although Atkinson will have

try to make Carlton

only £2 million to spend, he

Palmer, the former England

midfield player, his first sign-

ing Whether Southampoon will be prepared to sell him to

one of their rivals in the bot-

tom three is another matter.

Dave Bassett last Tuesday.

The board of the plc owning

R S Mehanarus e Knight b Holliosh (6 bels) U D U Chandarus e Fairbrother b Eas

(32 balls, 1 four) W P U J C Vans b li (16 balls)

POWLERS: Sough 8-0-37-1 (w 2: 2 fours; 5-0-24-1, 2-0-8-0, 2-0-5-0); Minifally 10-2-35-1 (w 1; 2 fours; 6-1-19-0, 4-1-18-1); Headiny 5-1-22-0 (2 fours; one spell); Embara 6-0-33-1 (2 fours; 3-0-19-0, 3-0-14-1); Croft 10-0-44-1 (12 fours; 8-0-34-1, 2-0-10-0); Holikowie 10-9-32-3 (w 2: 1 four; one spell).

DBL.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2 (Kaluwitherans
1), 2-99 (Alapattu 36), 3-102 (Alapattu
38), 4-126 (Tillokeratrio 12), 5-139 (Tillokeratrio 12), 6-185 (Tillokeratrio 41)
7-200 (Tillokeratrio 50),

Atkinson given little

time to save Forest

By RICHARD HOBSON

sooner rather than later."

kinson at Sheffield Wednes-

day last season, said. "This is a

big job but if there is anybody

who can achieve success at this club at this particular

time, it is Big Ron."
Forest identified Atkinson

as their first choice before

informing Bassett of his dis-

missal last Tuesday. They were impressed with his ability to lead Wednesday

away from trouble last year.

Atkinson: £2 million budget

Shreeves, who was No 2 to At-

"Ron will use the budget

G A Hick & Kalueltharana (42 bals, 1 six, 2 fours)

N H Fairbrother not out..... (105 balls, 1 six, 1 four) A J Hollicoke b Muralitheren (5 bells)

M W Alleyme at Kakus b Muraltheran... (50 balls)

However, he inherits his new job seven weeks later in the season with 17 rather than 24

games remaining in which to

The side has gone 18 games

without a win - a record for the Premiership — and sits sev-en points adrift from safety.

Atkinson, 60 in March, begins

with a home game against

Arsenal on Saturday in a re-

peat of his first match last sea-

son with Wednesday, which

er, would have preferred Atkin-

son to arrive sooner in the week. "If he is going to get us out of this position, we need to

start on Saturday and I don't

think one day's preparation is

enough," Lyttle said. The appointment of Atkin-

son provoked a mixed reaction among supporters. Andy Lowe,

the Editor of the Tricky Tree

fanzine, said: " It seems to have

been conveniently forgotten that

while he kept Wednesday up

last year he also took them

down in 1990. You could bring back Brian Clough in his

prime and it would still be too

Des Lyttle, the Forest defend-

ended in a 2-0 success.

turn the situation around.

# 57), 6-190 (Fabrother 59). BOWLING: Vans. 7,3-0-10-0 (rb. 2; 3) fours; 5-0-25-0, 2-0-10-0, 0.3-0-5-0); Zoyen 6-0-31-0 (3 fours; 3-0-20-0, 3-0-11-0); Wickressussinghe 4-0-16-0 (1 four; one spell); Bharaitheran 10-0-34-3 (rb. 3; 1 st; 4-0-18-0, 3-0-8-2, 3-0-8-1); Chaptons 10-1-41-1 (rb. 1, w. 1; 1 four; 4-0-19-1, 4-1-12-0, 2-0-10-0); Allysecuting 10-1-35-0 (1 st; 9-1-27-0, 1-0-8-0); Tillestoration 2-0-8-1 (one spell).

By STEPHEN WOOD

BRIAN KIDD, the Black-burn Rovers manager, is interested in signing Jason McAteer, the Liverpool midfield player, and the Ewood Park club may make a formal approach for him today.

McAteer has had his oppor-tunities at Liverpool limited

Blackburn are confident that Tim Sherwood, their captain, will sign a new coutract. and he was on the verge of a move to Tottenham Hotspur. Blackburn are unbeaten under Kidd and Sherwood has always maintained that

## Kidd keen to sign **McAteer**

cikt not bei. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-59 (Knight 33), 2-87 (Hick 21), 3-128 (Felstrother 23), 4-130 (Felstrother 24), 5-187 (Felstrother 57), 6-190 (Felstrother 59).

this season and it is understood that Blackburn will offer £3.5 million for the Ireland international. They were hopeful that Sebastien Perez would join Liverpool as part of the deal, but the midfield player wants to return to

Sherwood was openly critical of the regime under Roy Hodgson, Kidd's predecessor. as long as the club displays ambition, he will not leave.

Smillie dismissed, page 44

# McRae's efforts might prove worthless

COLIN McRAE, the former world champion, might not be allowed to score points in the first three rounds of the 1999 world raily championship that starts this weekend in Monte Carlo.

water pump. Although the other teams regulations.

"If there are no points to be won then benefit from any top-six places.

By Jeremy Hart

The problem has occurred because McRae's car, unlike others competing in finish their two new rally cars for its world the world series, does not have a road-go- debut. The El million Focuses are still in The Britan's new Martini Ford Focus is ing performance version. Ford have purbits at Wilson's Cockermouth base. "If you being forced to run in Monte Carlo, pose-built the engine using a non-standard saw the cars now you'd never think we Sweden and Kenya with a non-standard water pump, infringing the strict rally could start on Sunday," Wilson said. "But water pump, infringing the strict rally could start on Sunday," Wilson said. "But

allowed the radical new car to compete, there is no point in competing." Malcolm minute tests on the Focus that, regardless there is doubt as to whether the team will Wilson, whose M-Sport outfit in Cumbria of its eligibility for points, is unlikely to be runs Ford's rally team, said. "I'm confident competitive for at least three rallies."

that we will be allowed to score points, but

we won't know until the weekend." The team is working round the clock to WE WILL.".

McRae is in France carrying out last-

## Scottish fight to maintain 🕏 status

BY DAVID HANDS

THE players of London Scot season to speculation that took them as far north as Edinburgh and now links thein with a move to Bristol, were told yesterday by their chair-man, Tony Tiarks, that he was

man, 1 ony 1 ams, pass he was trying to resolve the economic realities of a sport beset by the problems of professionalism. "Our rughy team is doing a particularly good job and our players are the company." Tarks said after weekend one that Bristol are prepared to buy 100 per cent of the shareholding of a first-drussion club to avoid exclusion from any Anglo-Welsh structure that may be agreed for next season. Bristol, who lead the second division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, have talked with Scottish and other first division strugglers, to avoid the consequences of what they perceive to be a plot-by "avaricious" proprietors of certain first-division clubs.

We are dealing with the emotions of an amateur rugby. club and I'm the first to uphold them," Tiarks said, "but there is a dilemma when the old ethos goes against the modern costs. The London Scottish [public limited] company is only one and a half years old. I have been told we are not members of the Scottish Ringby Union. So it's plain we're not dealing with a 120-year-old clob. The real world is pay day."

There has been no debate

by London Scottish shareholders on the proposals outlined by Nick de Scossa, the Bristol chief executive, which—if act-ed upon — would merge the playing strength of both clubs and lose the Exiles identity. The appeal for Tiarks is in the established rugby population of Bristol set against the rash of rugby clubs competing for

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DOES:

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New Service

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has embarrassed the Rugby Football Union (RFU), given

The integrity of the existing regulations applies: if you are promoted, you go into division one." Terry Burwell, the RFU's operations director, said, but he cannot stipulate the competition into which Bristol will be promoted since talks of a two-division Anglo-Welsh league are ongoing.

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